

FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART)

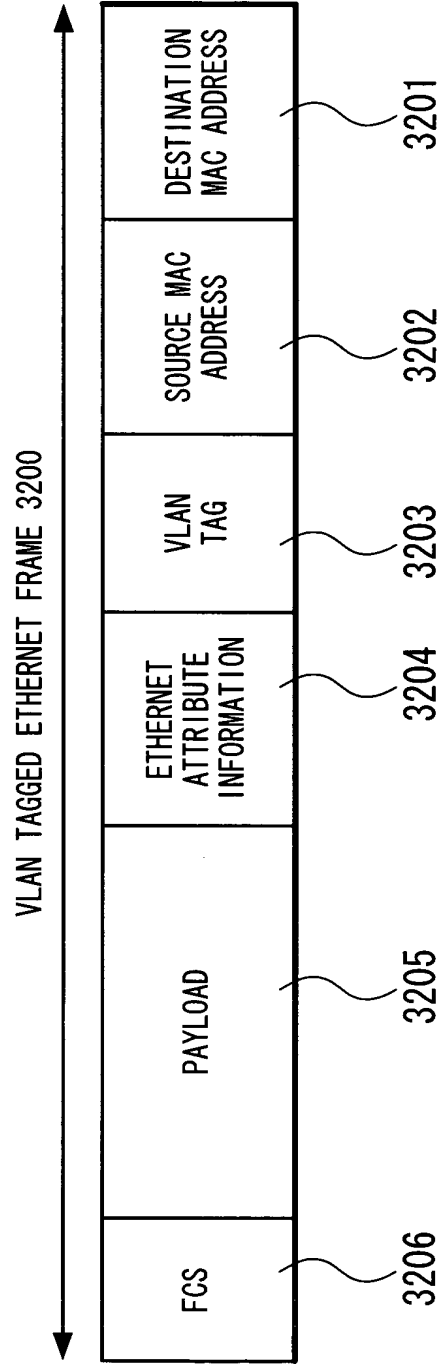


FIG. 2

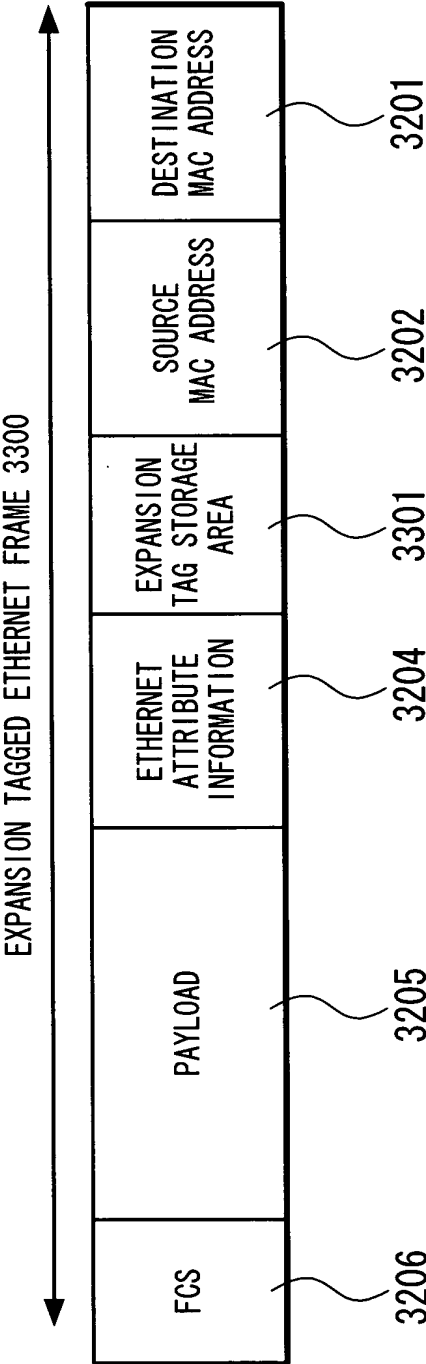


FIG. 3

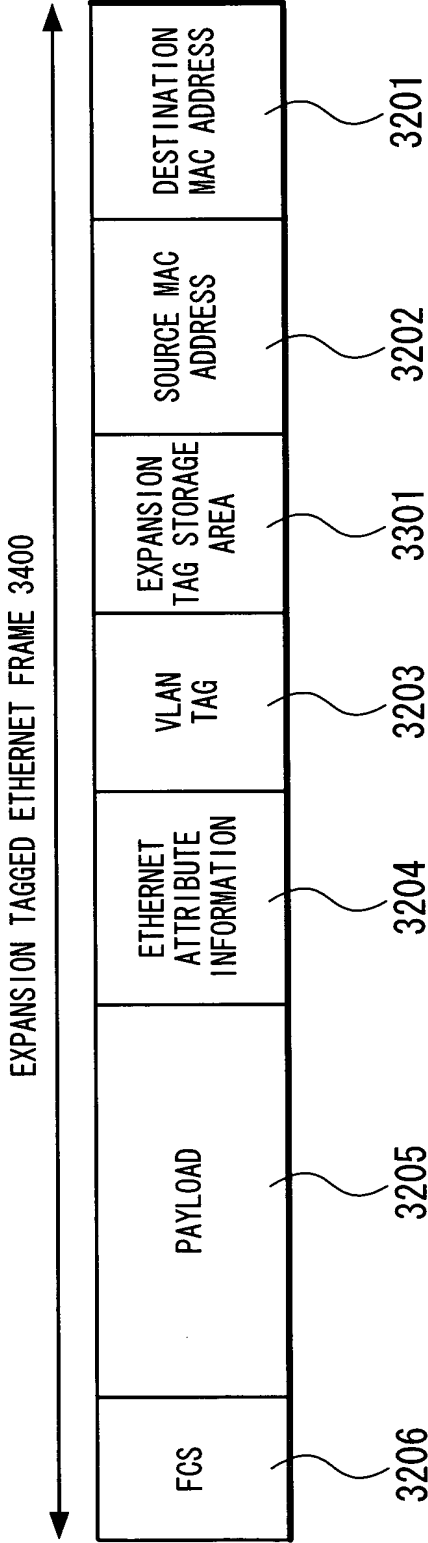


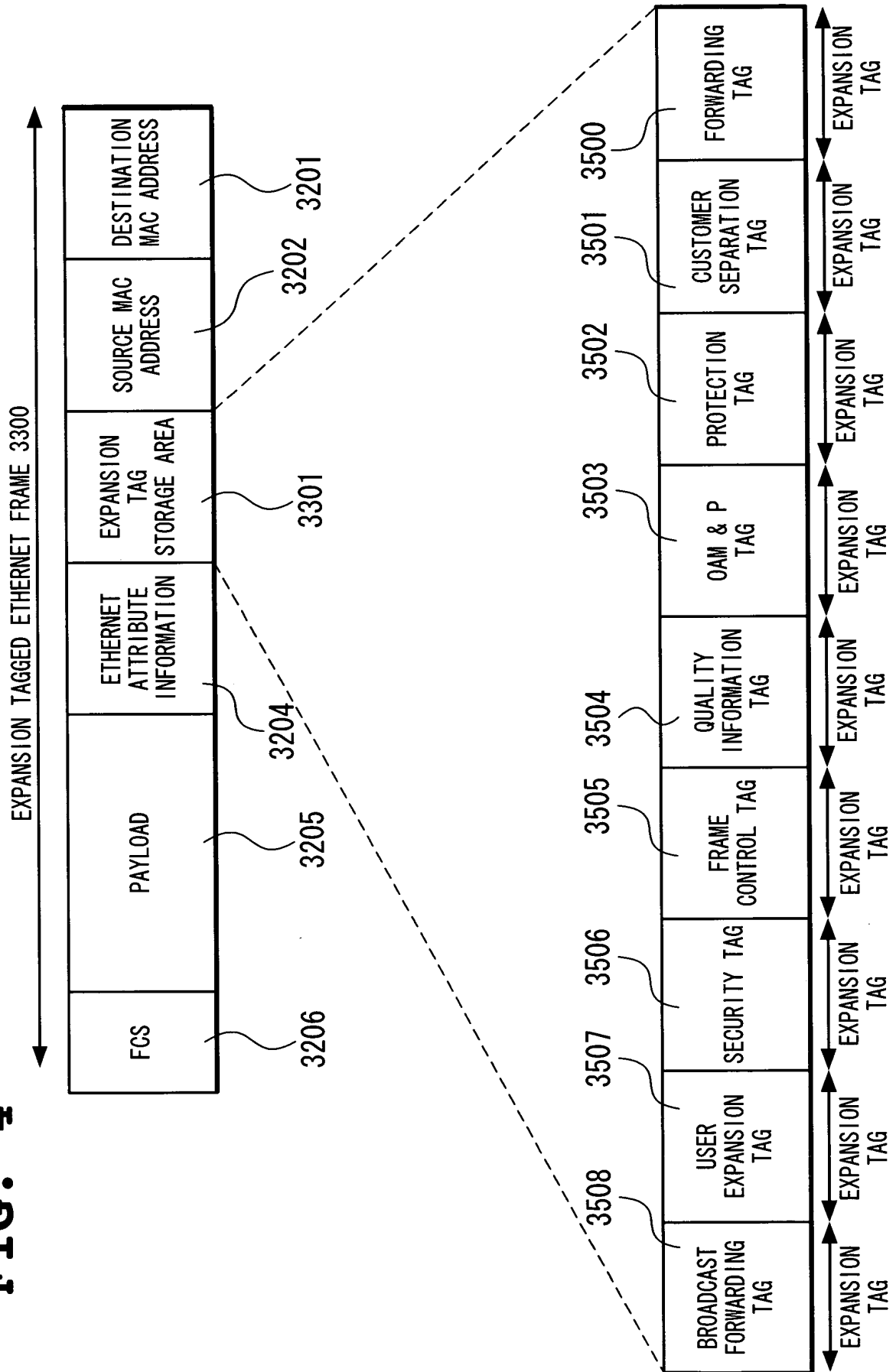
FIG. 4

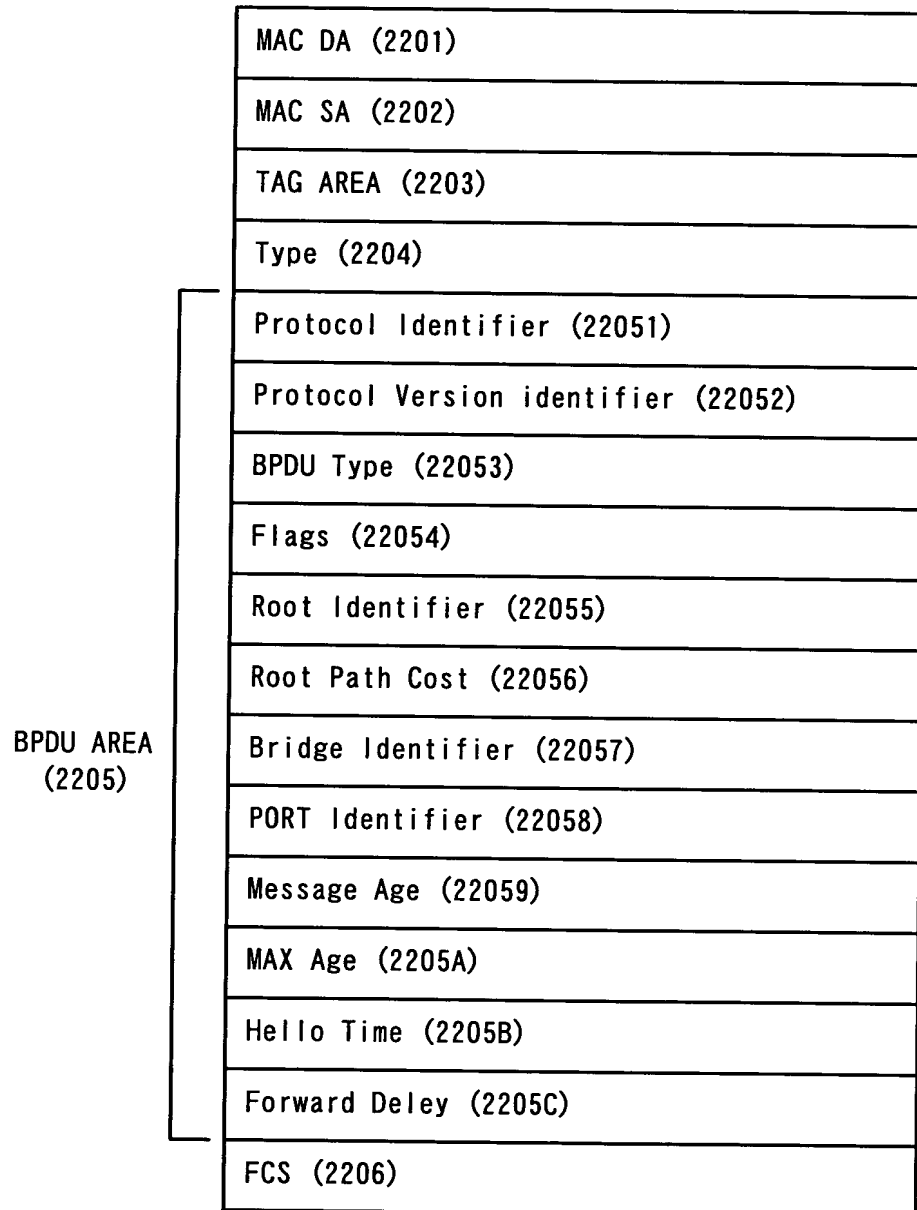
FIG. 5

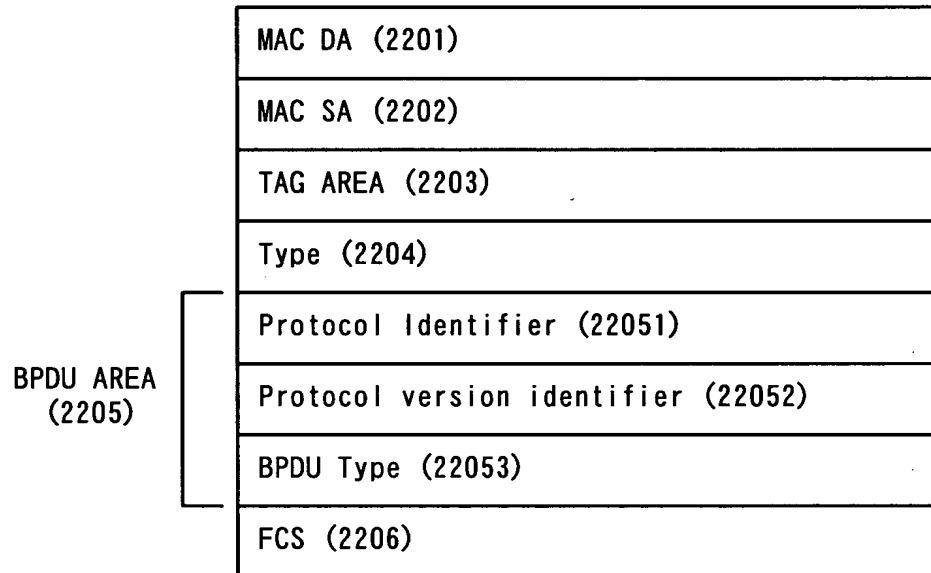
FIG. 6

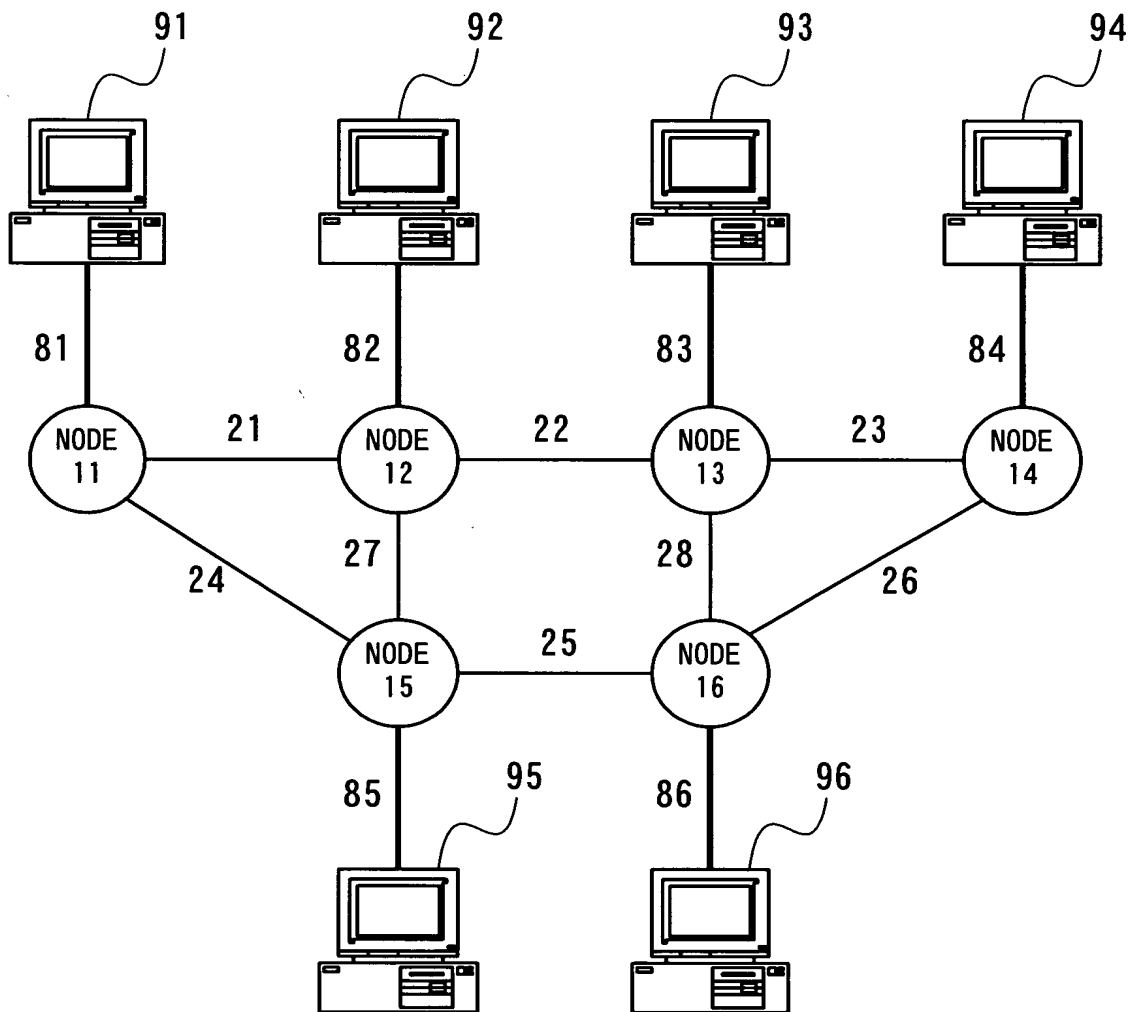
FIG. 7

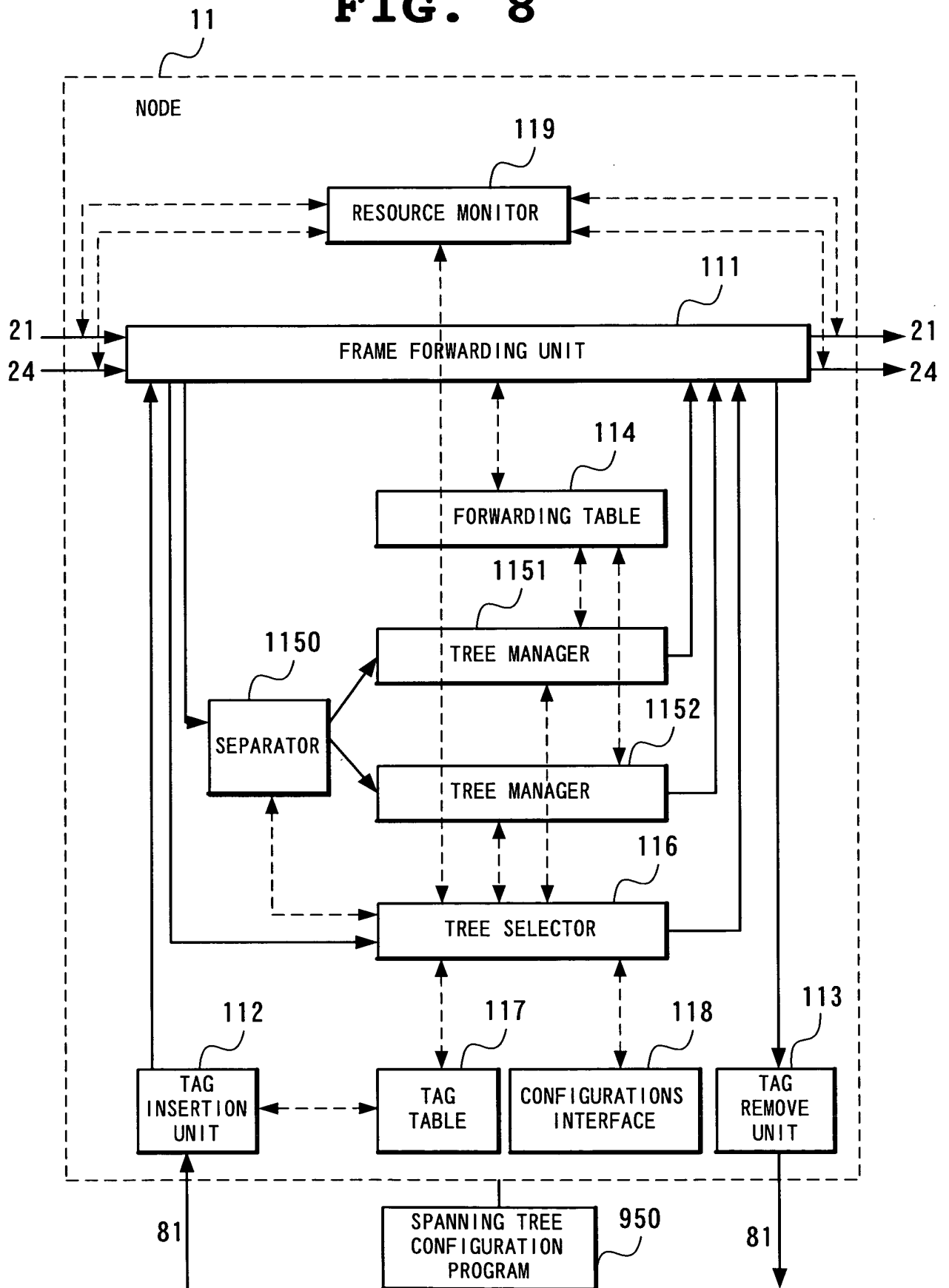

FIG. 8

FIG. 9

114



TAG 1141	OUTPUT PORT 1142
CURRENT SYSTEM TAG	PORT2 (EXAMPLE)
AUXILIARY SYSTEM TAG	PORT1 (EXAMPLE)

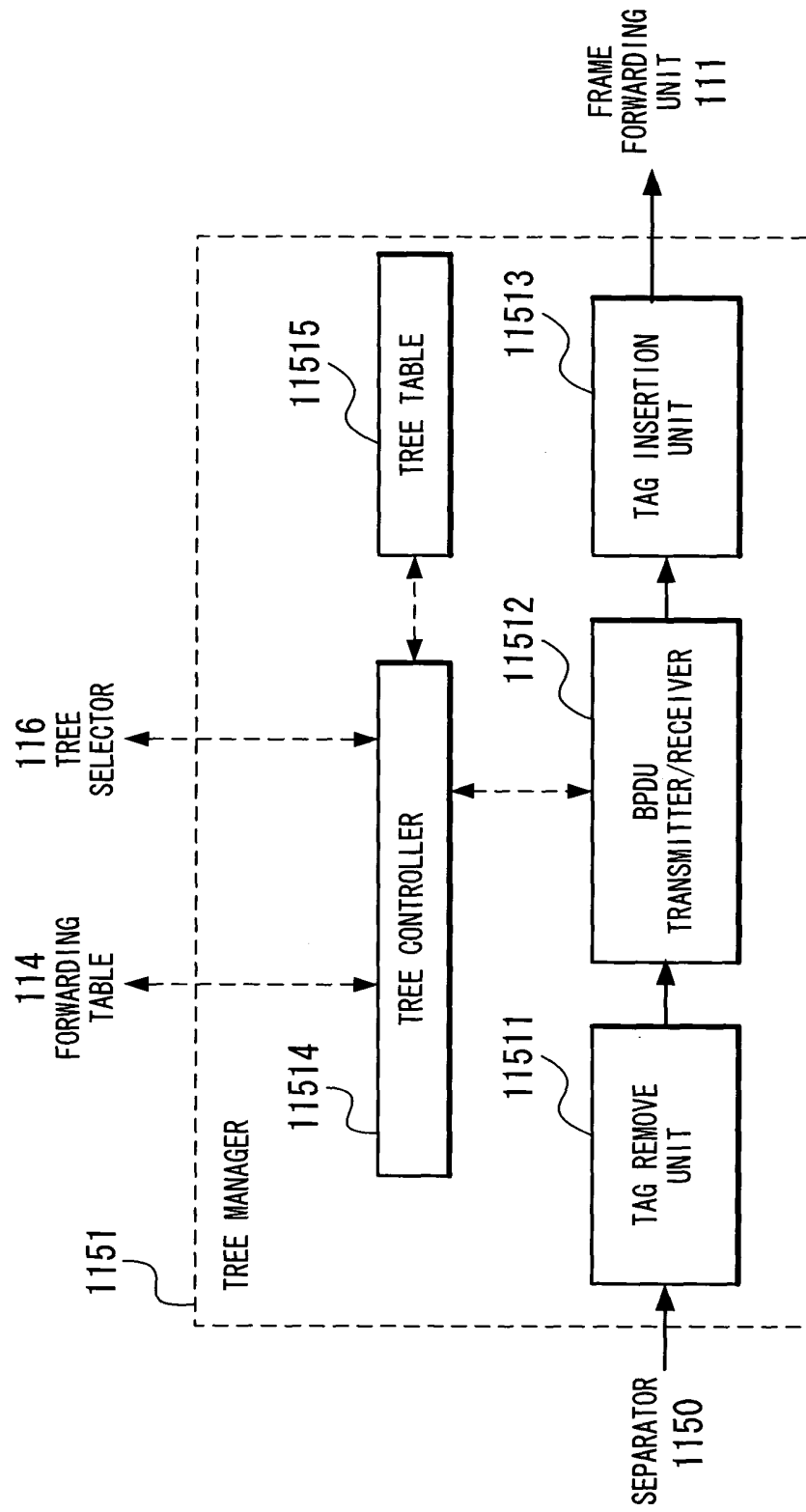
FIG. 10

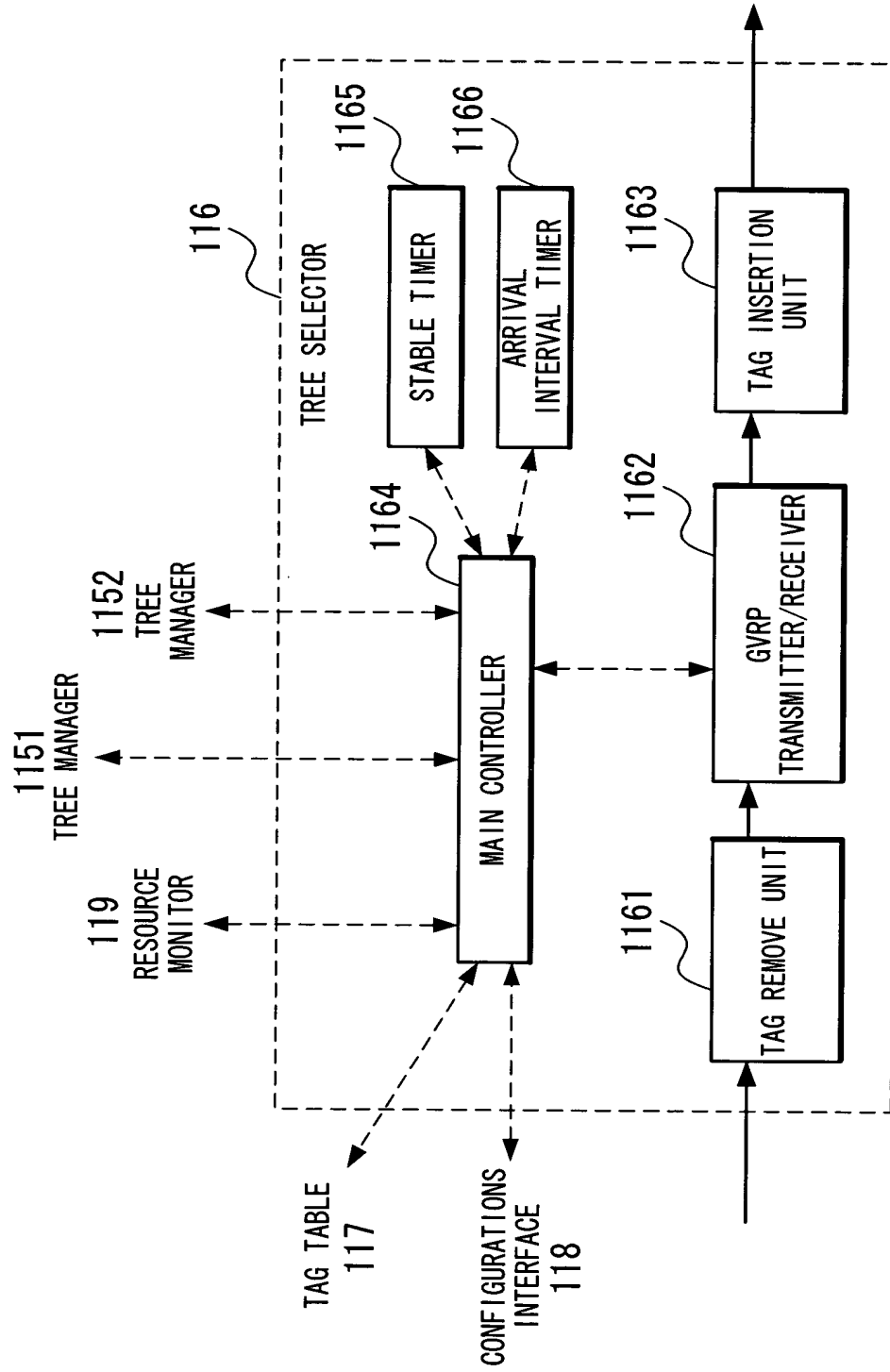
FIG. 11

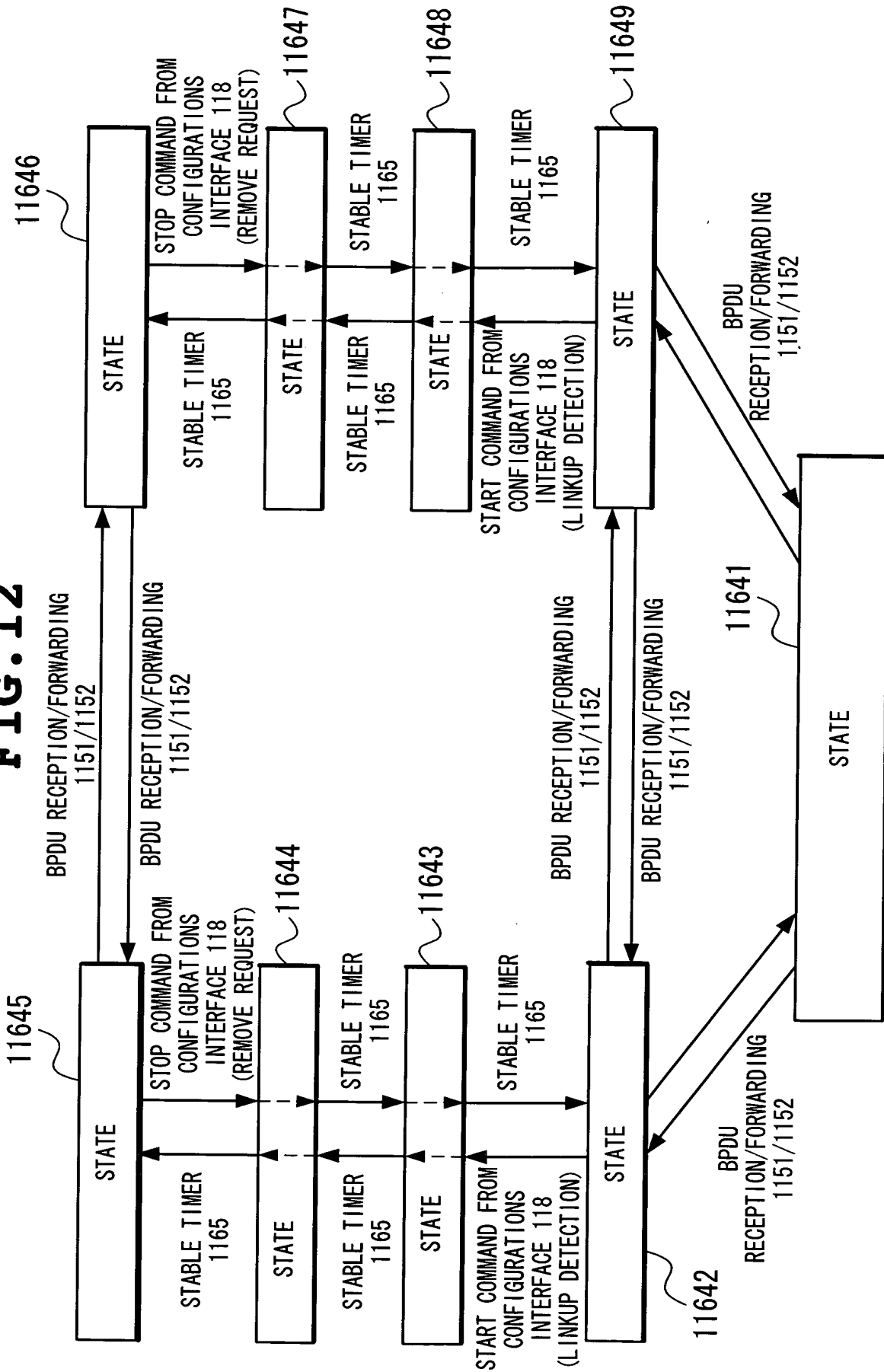
FIG. 12

FIG. 13

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DESTINATION MAC ADDRESS 1171	INSERTION TAG 1172
VALUE REPRESENTING ALL THE NODES ON THE ENTIRE NETWORK	ID OF THE TAG GROUP THAT IS THE CURRENT SYSTEM NOW

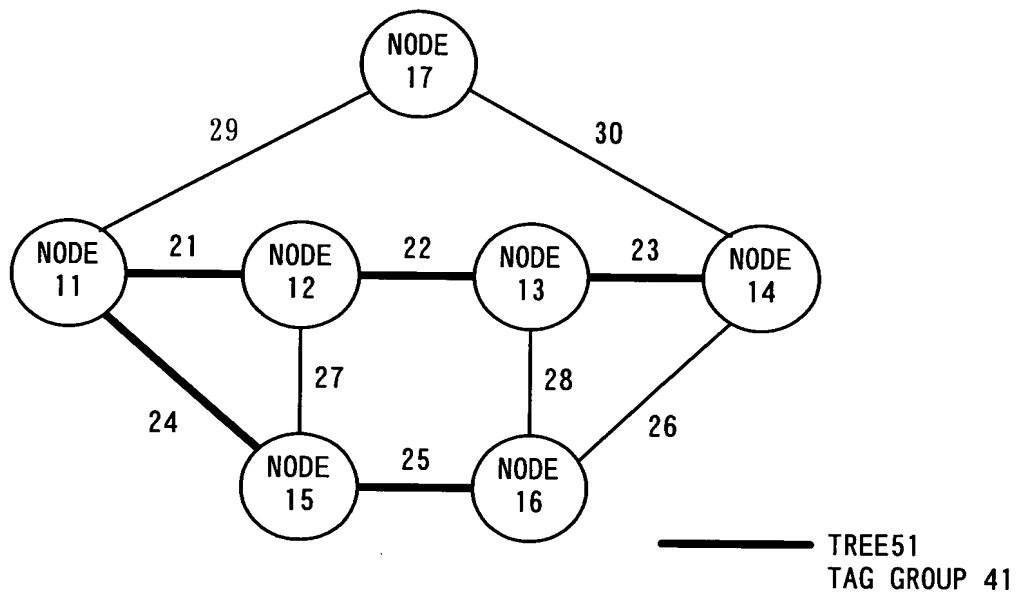
FIG. 14

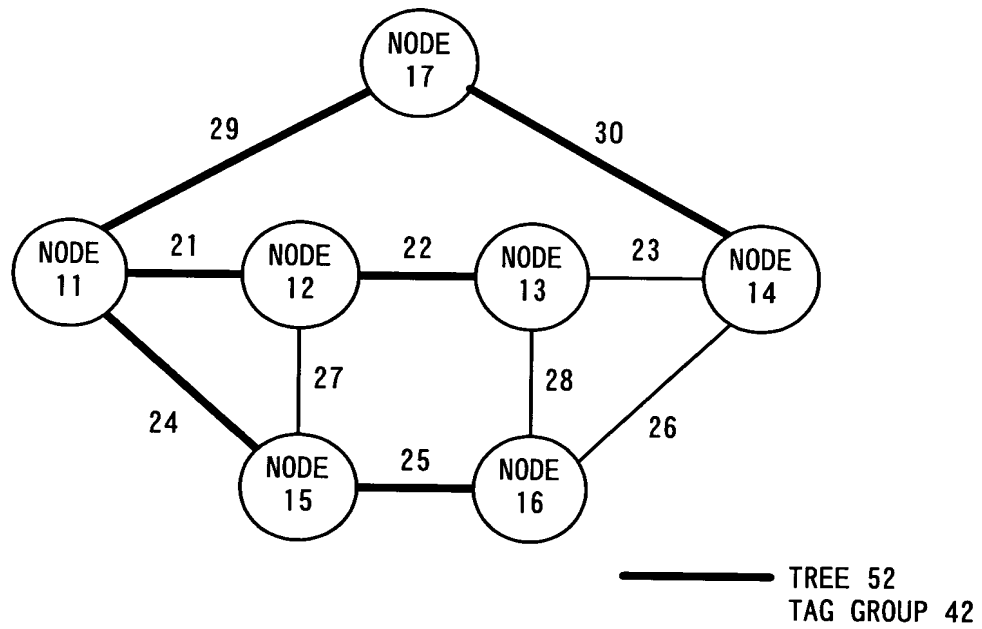
FIG. 15

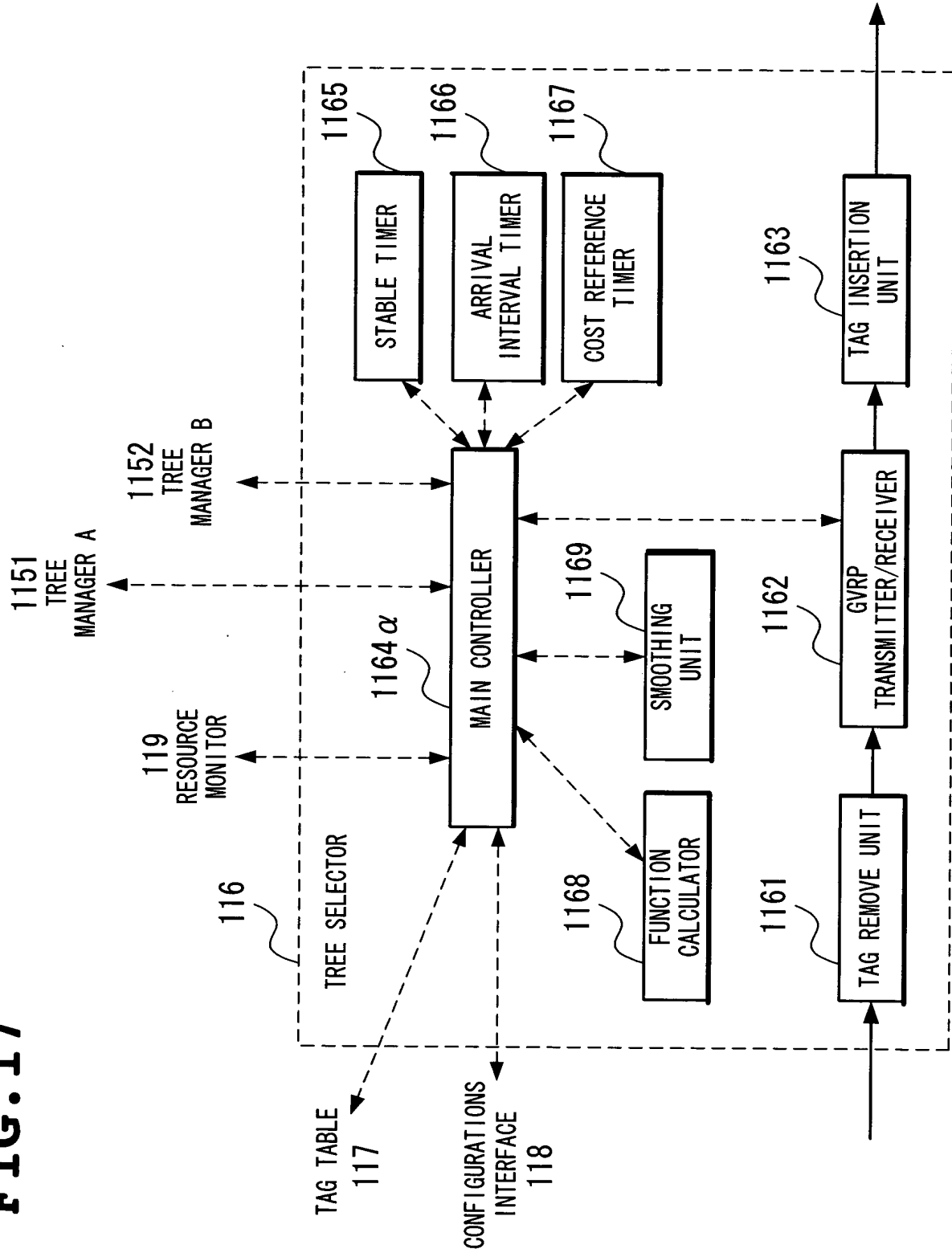
FIG. 17

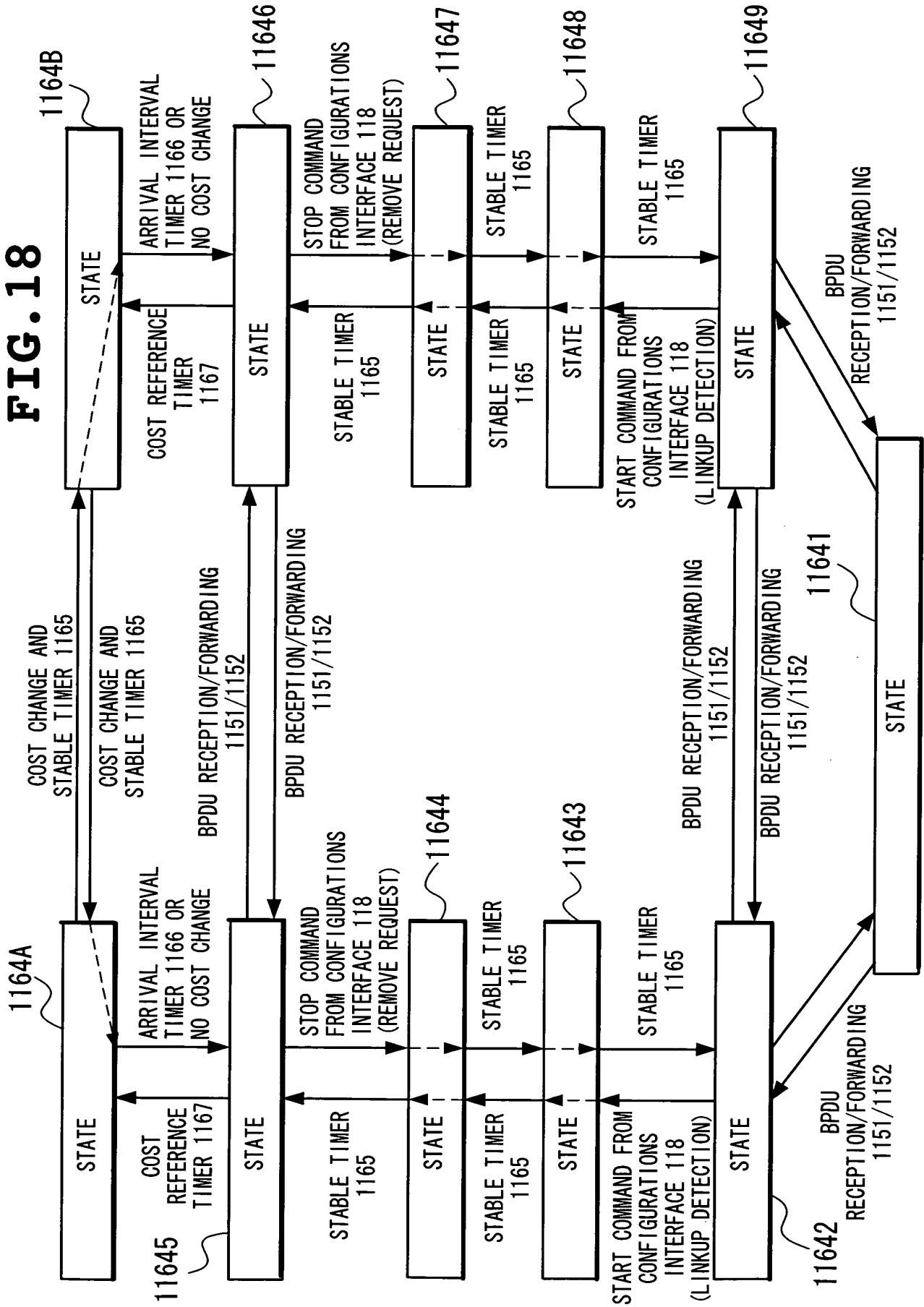
FIG. 18

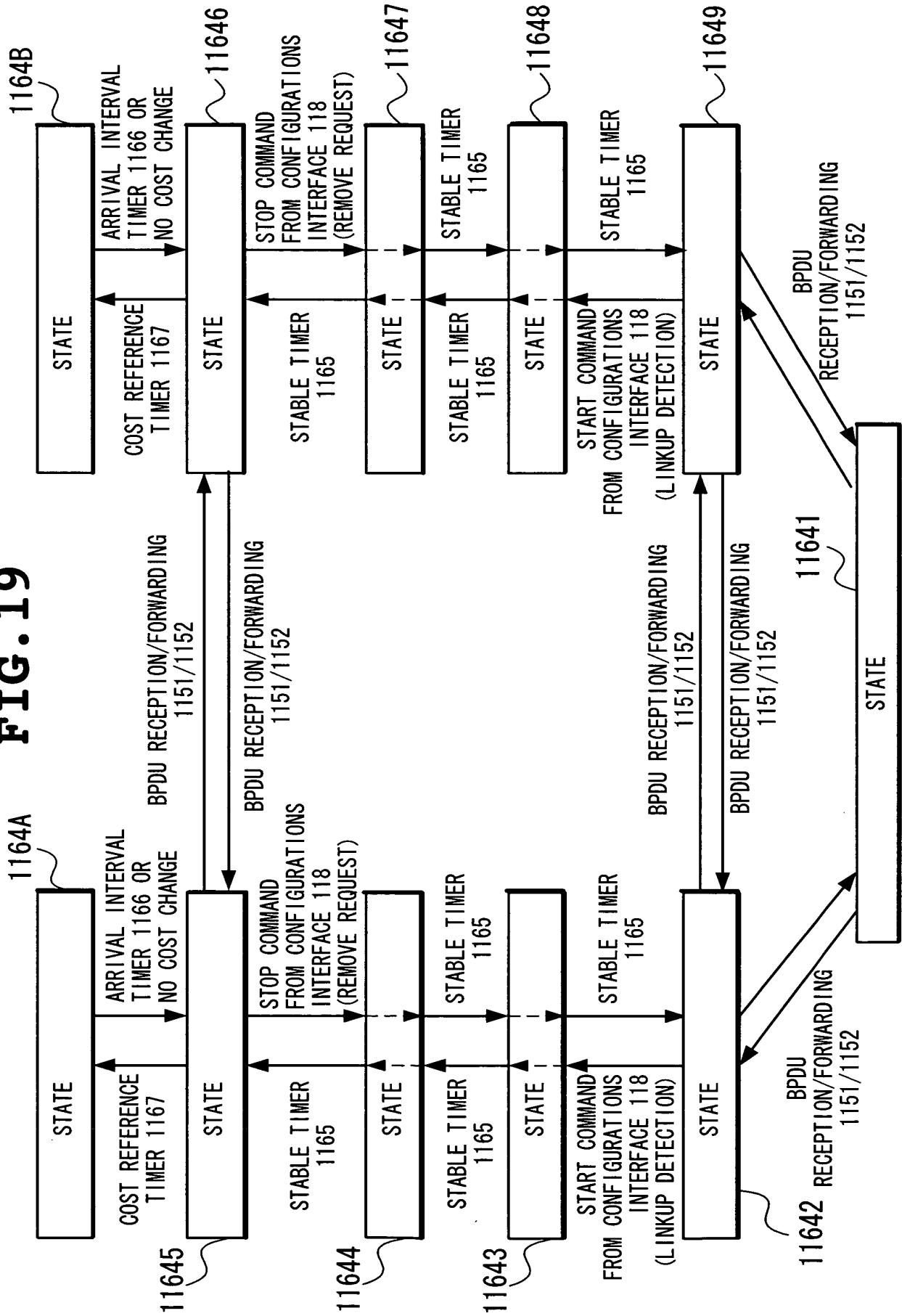
FIG. 19

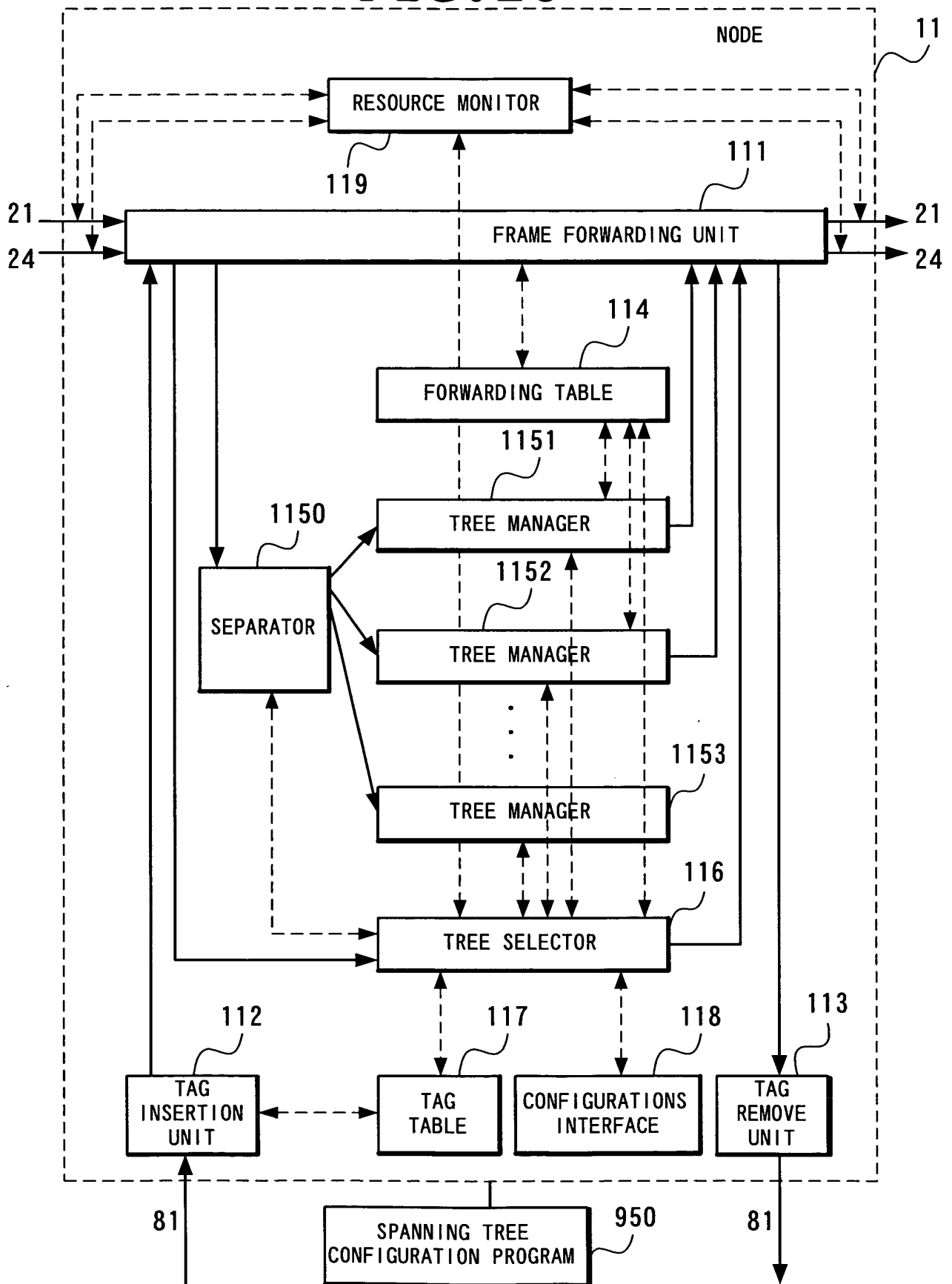
FIG. 20

FIG. 21

114

TAG 1141	OUTPUT PORT 1142
41	PORT1
42	PORT2
43	PORT2
44	PORT1

FIG. 22

117

DESTINATION MAC ADDRESS 1171	INSERTION TAG 1172
91A	41
91C	41
92B	42
93X	43

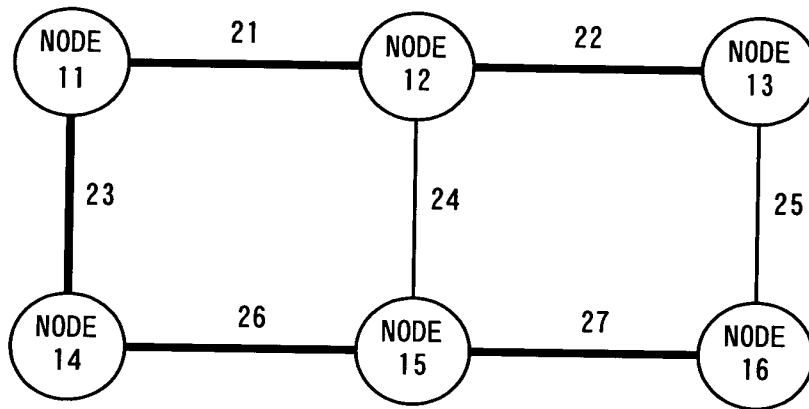
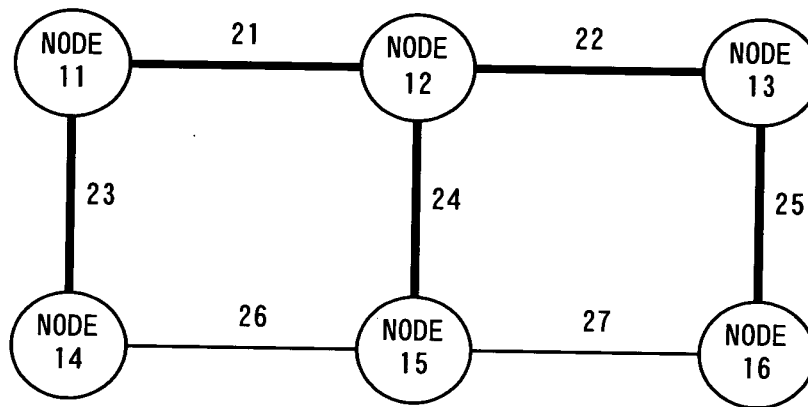
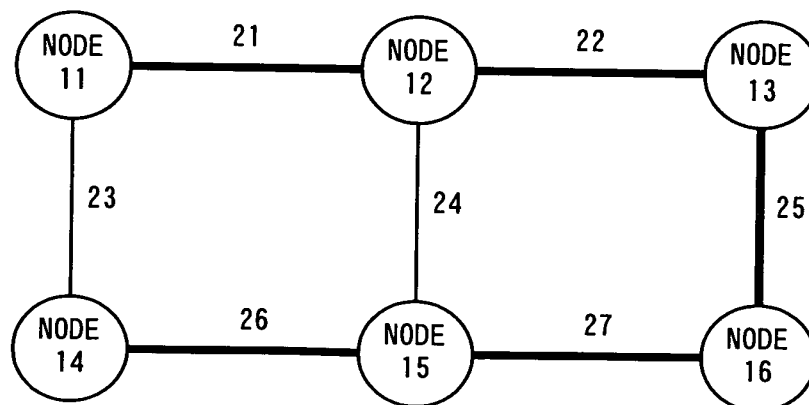
FIG. 23**FIG. 24****FIG. 25**

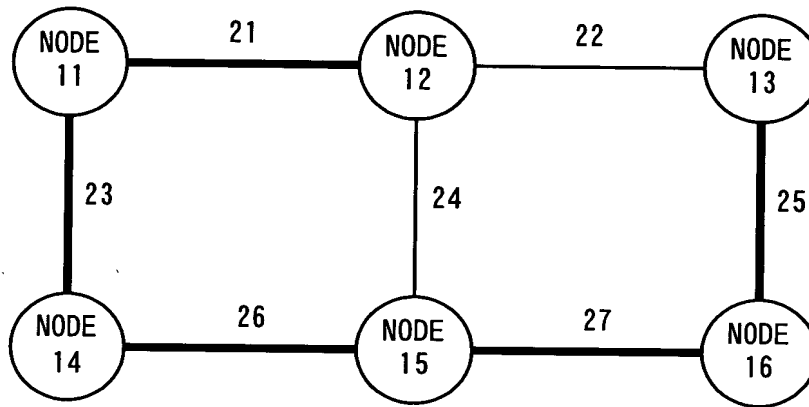
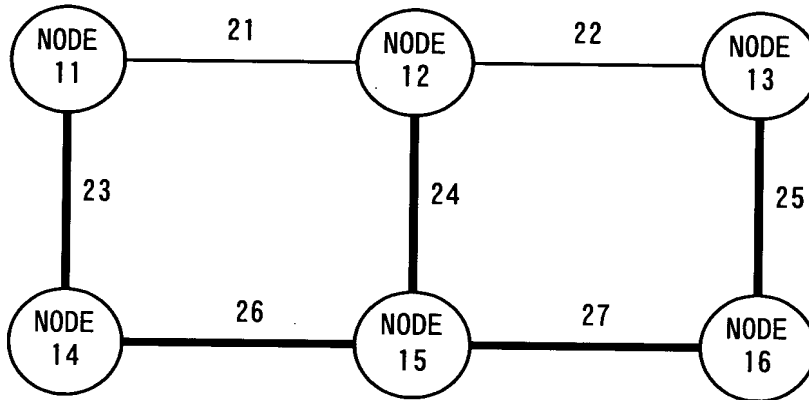
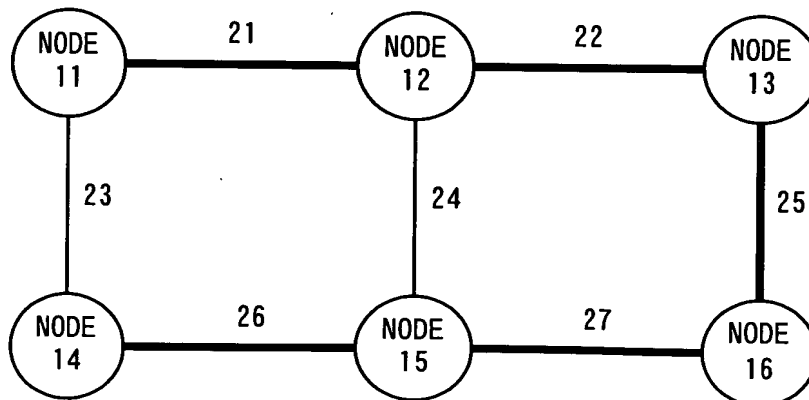
FIG. 26**FIG. 27****FIG. 28**

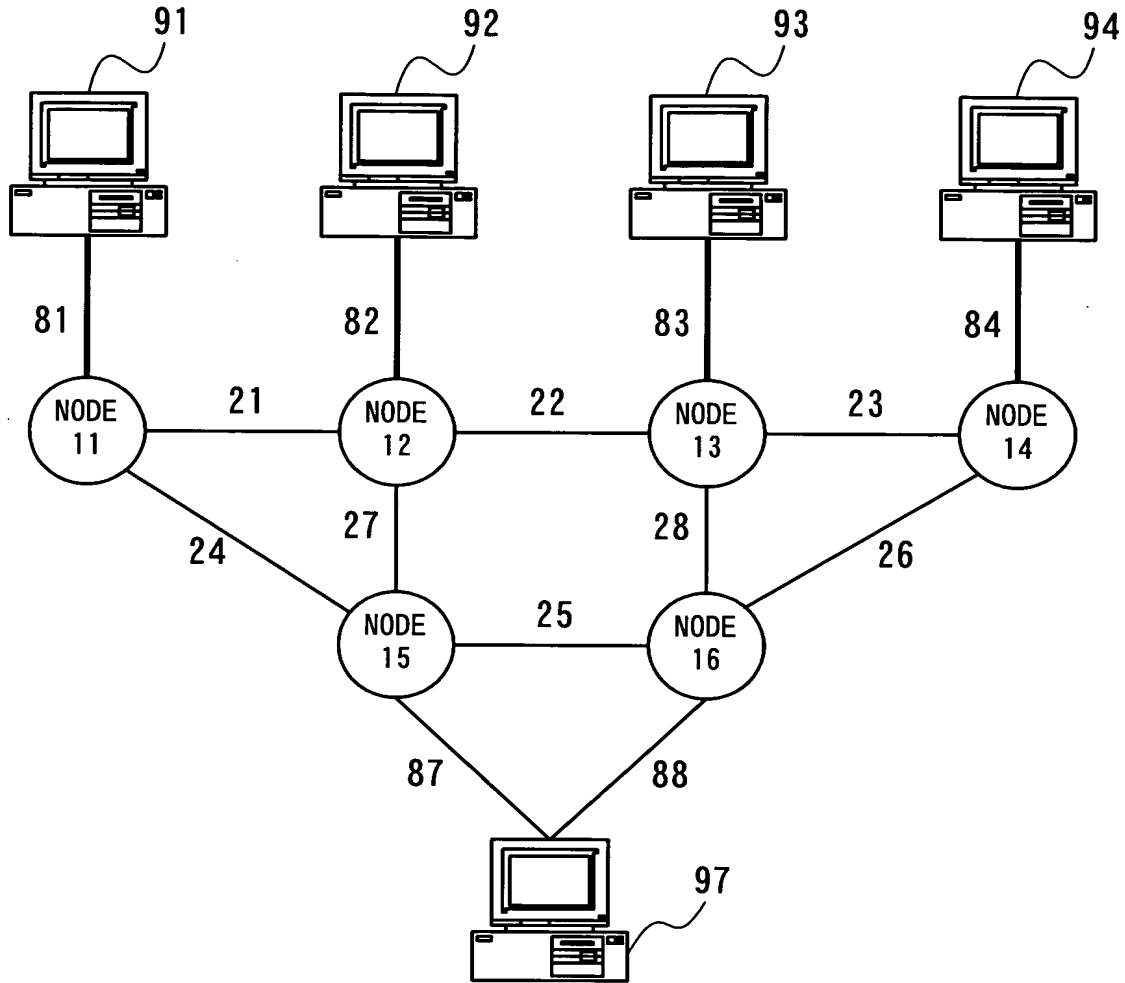
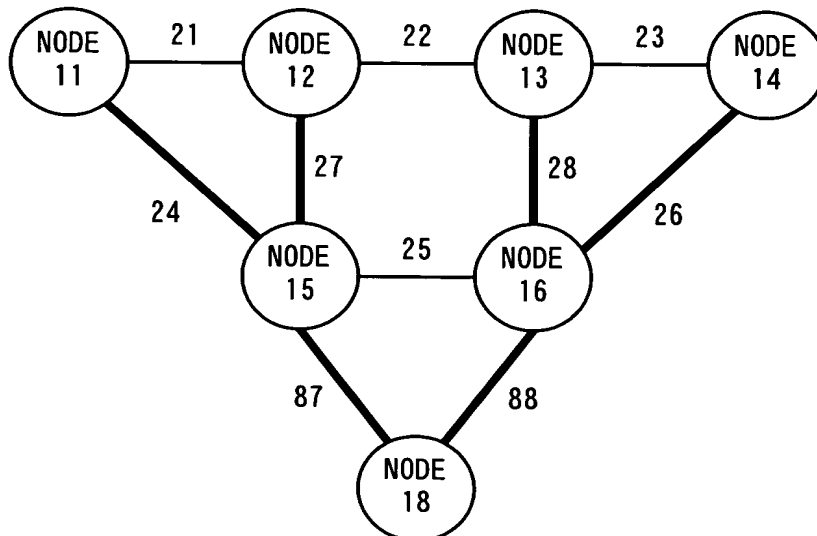
FIG. 29**FIG. 30**

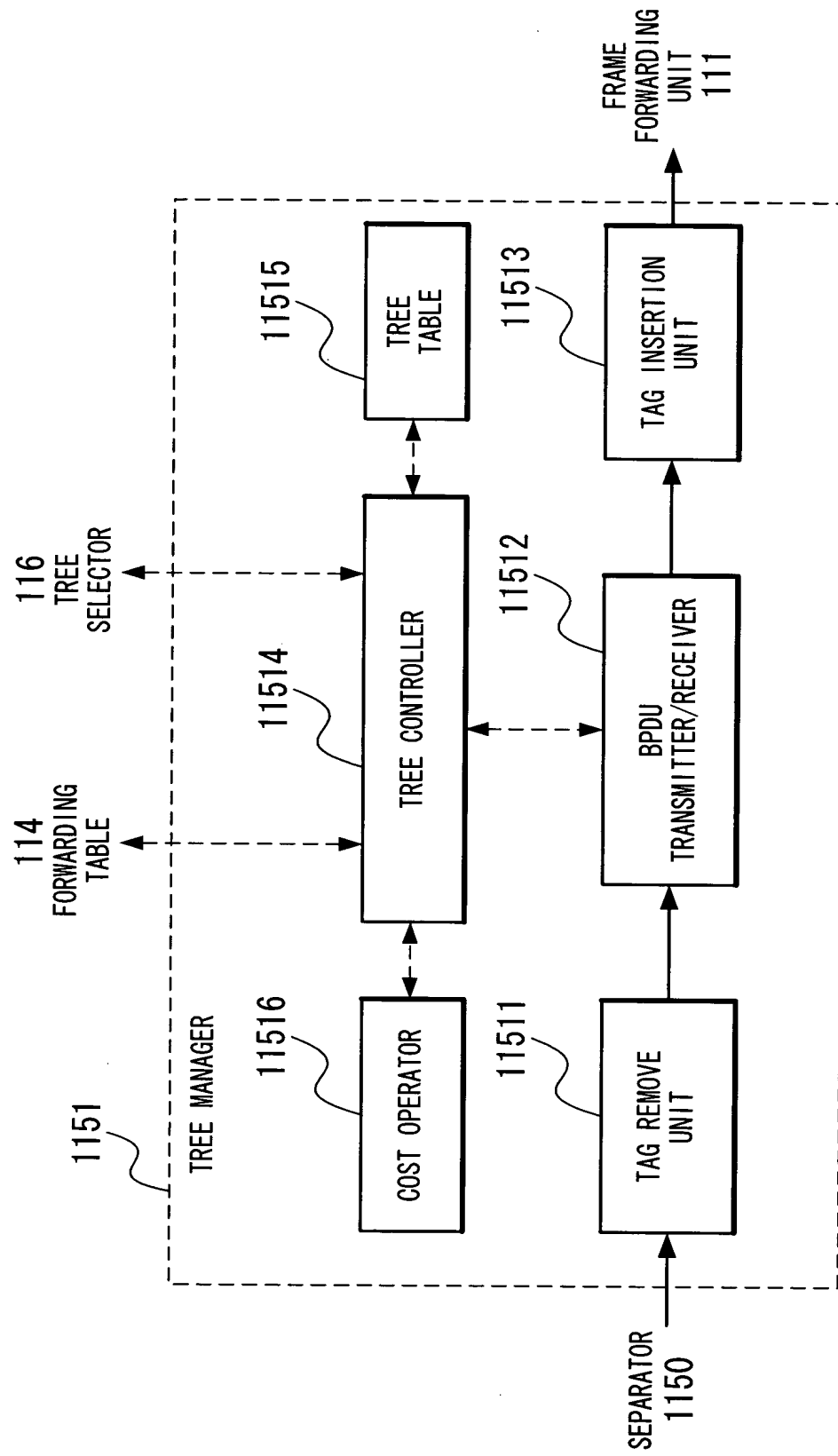
FIG. 31

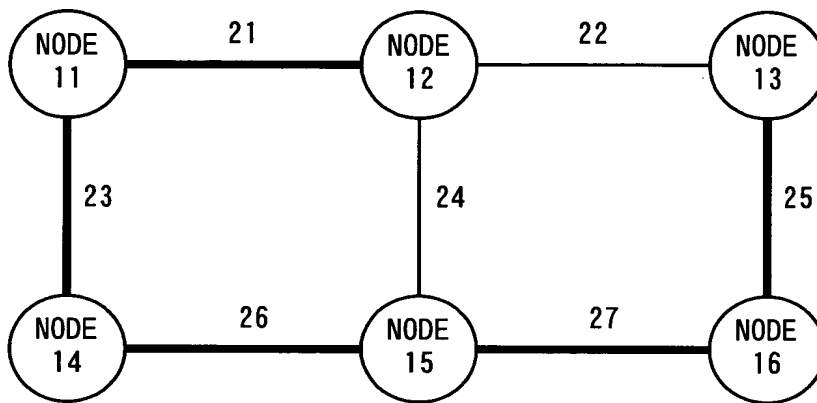
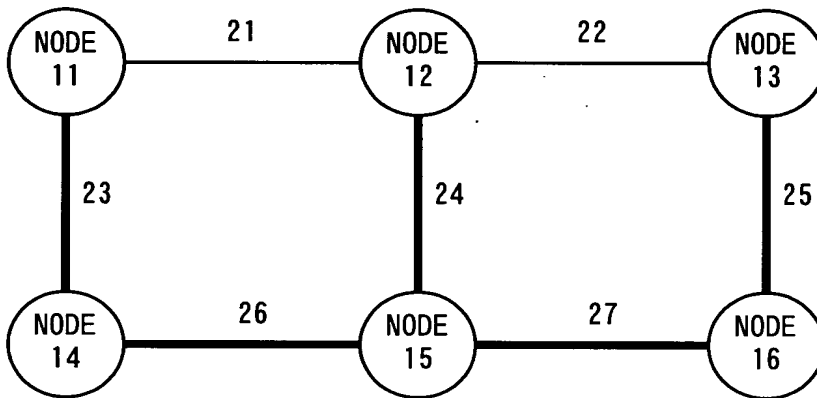
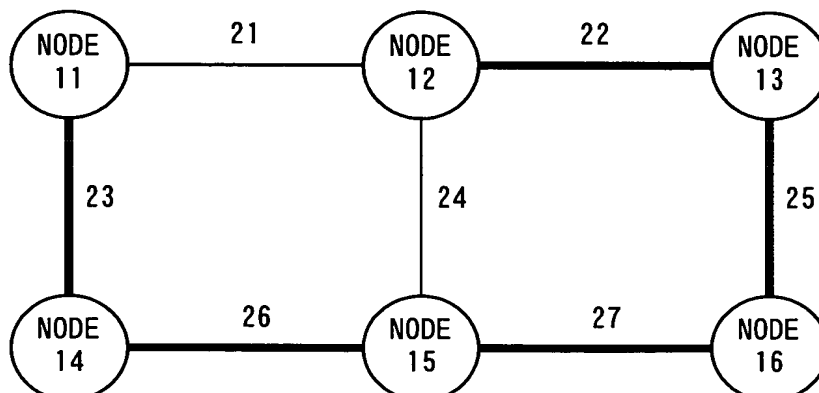
FIG. 32**FIG. 33****FIG. 34**

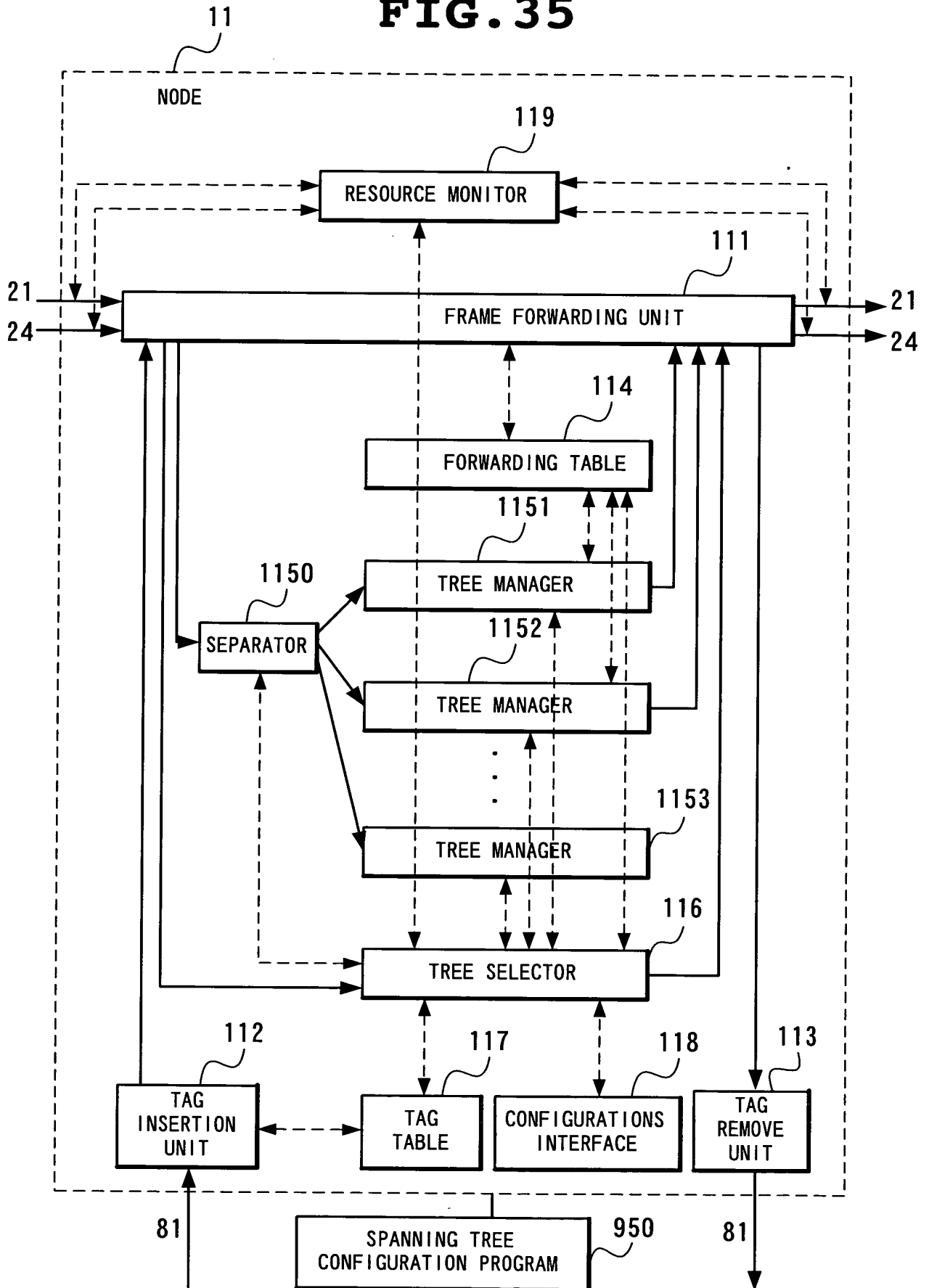
FIG. 35

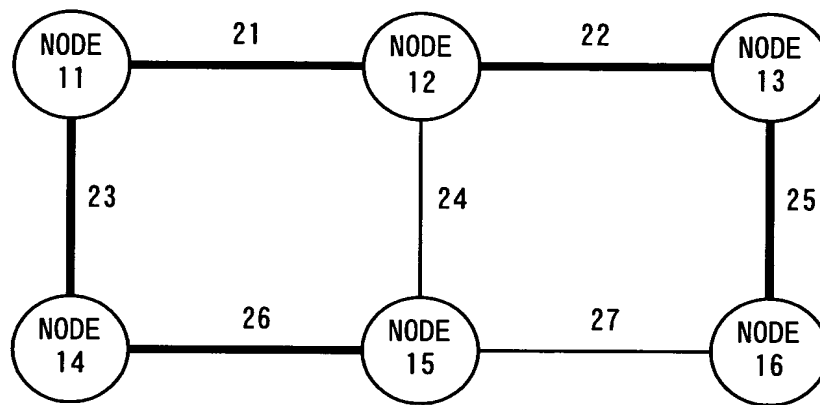
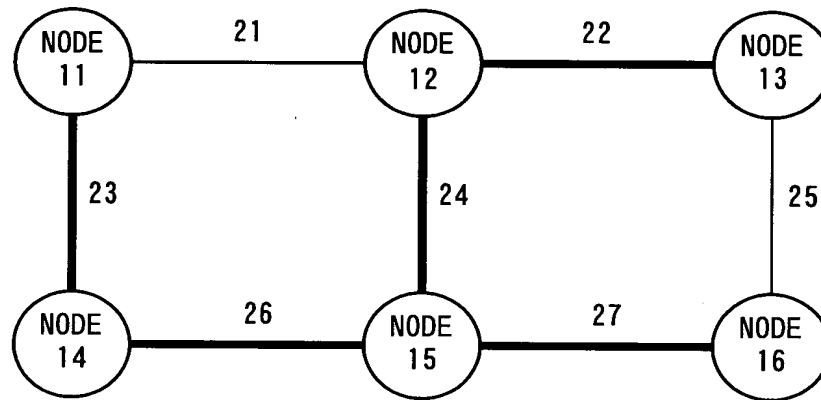
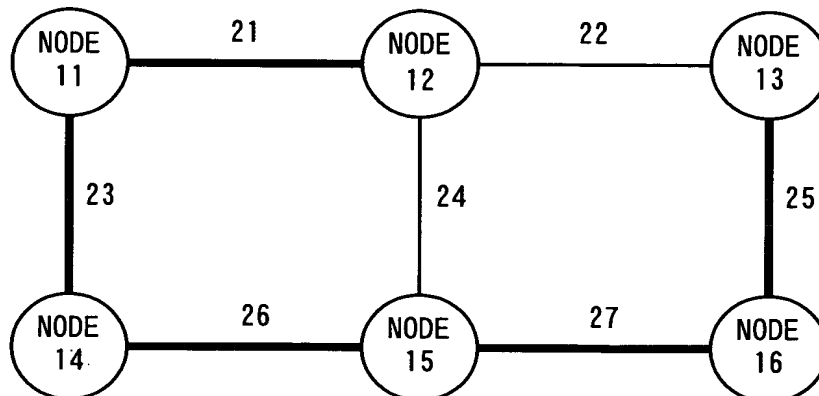
FIG 36**FIG. 37****FIG. 38**

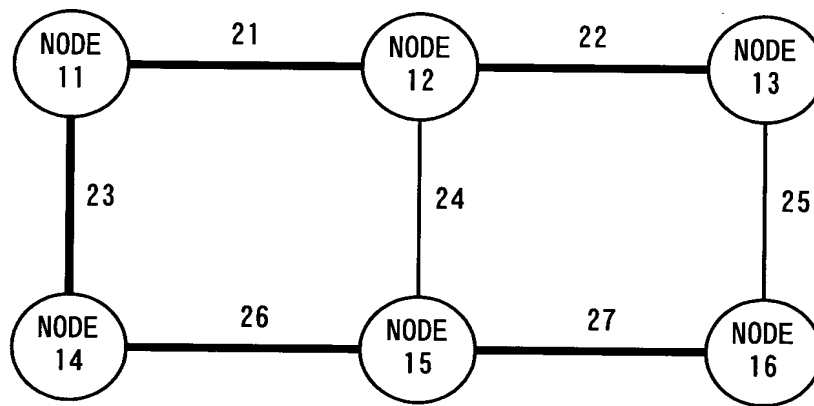
FIG. 39

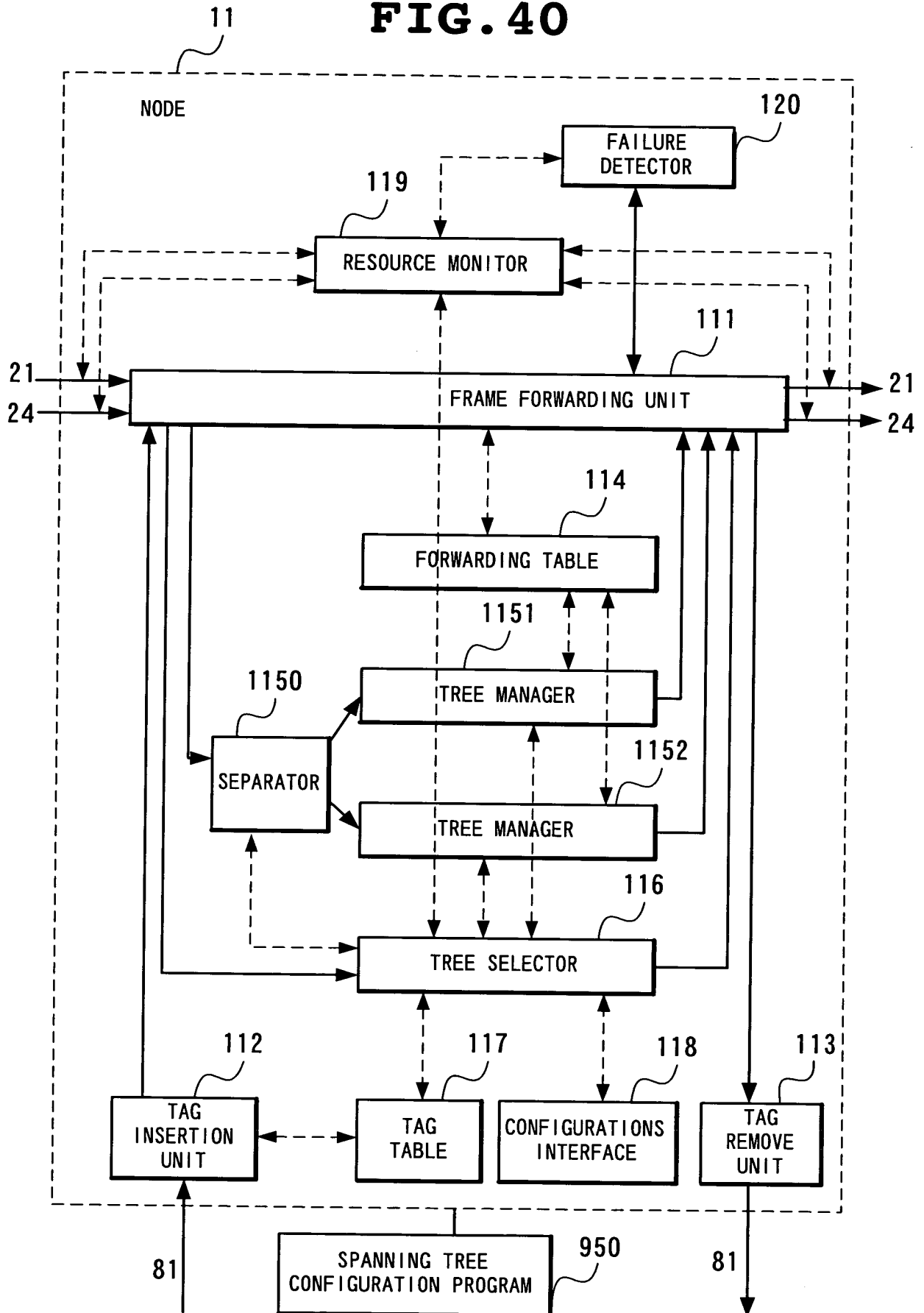
FIG. 40

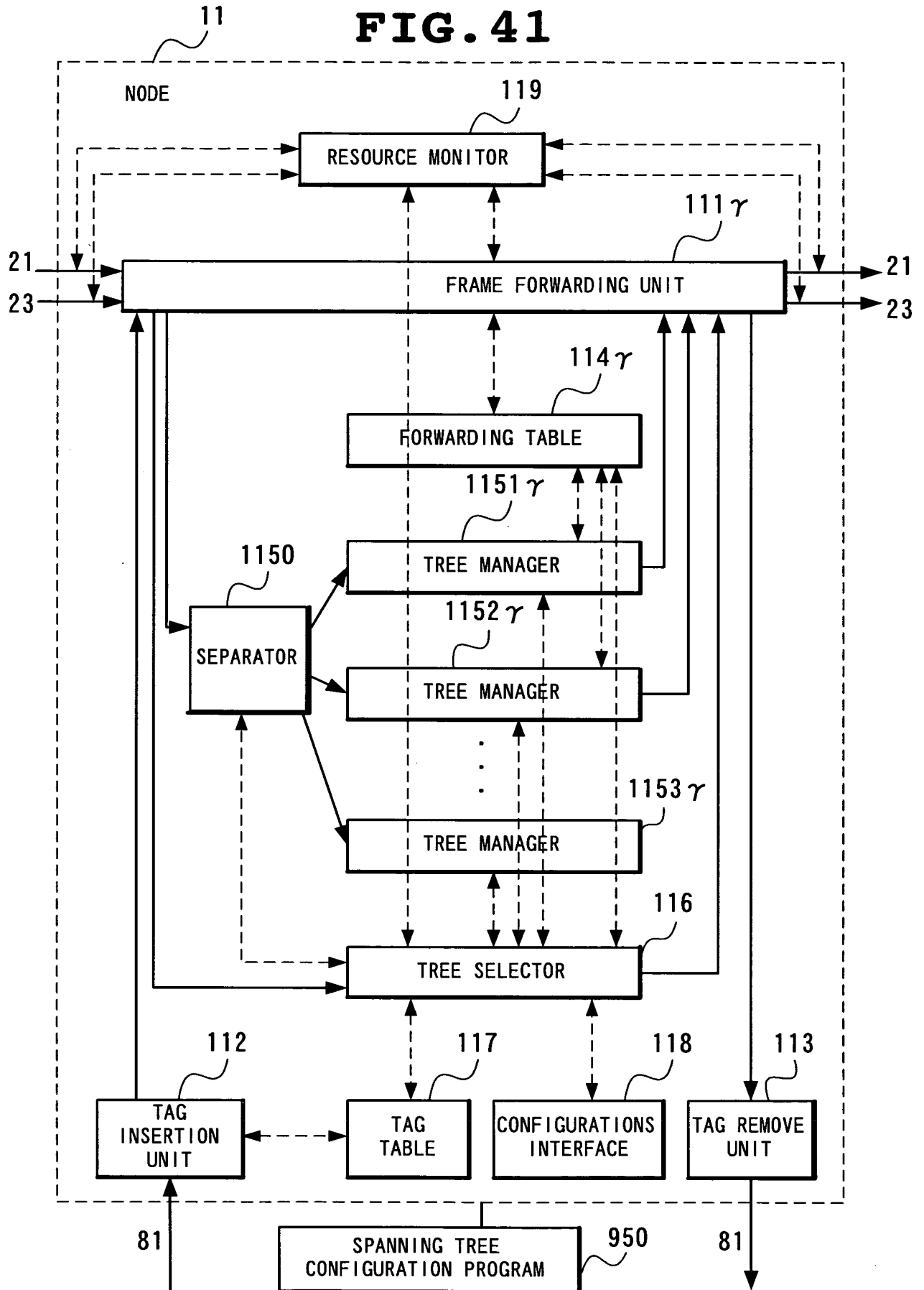
FIG. 41

FIG 42

114 γ

(VIEW FROM NODE 11)

TAG 1141	OUTPUT PORT 1142
41	END
42	LINK 21 SIDE
43	LINK 21 SIDE
44	LINK 23 SIDE
45	LINK 23 SIDE
46	LINK 21 SIDE

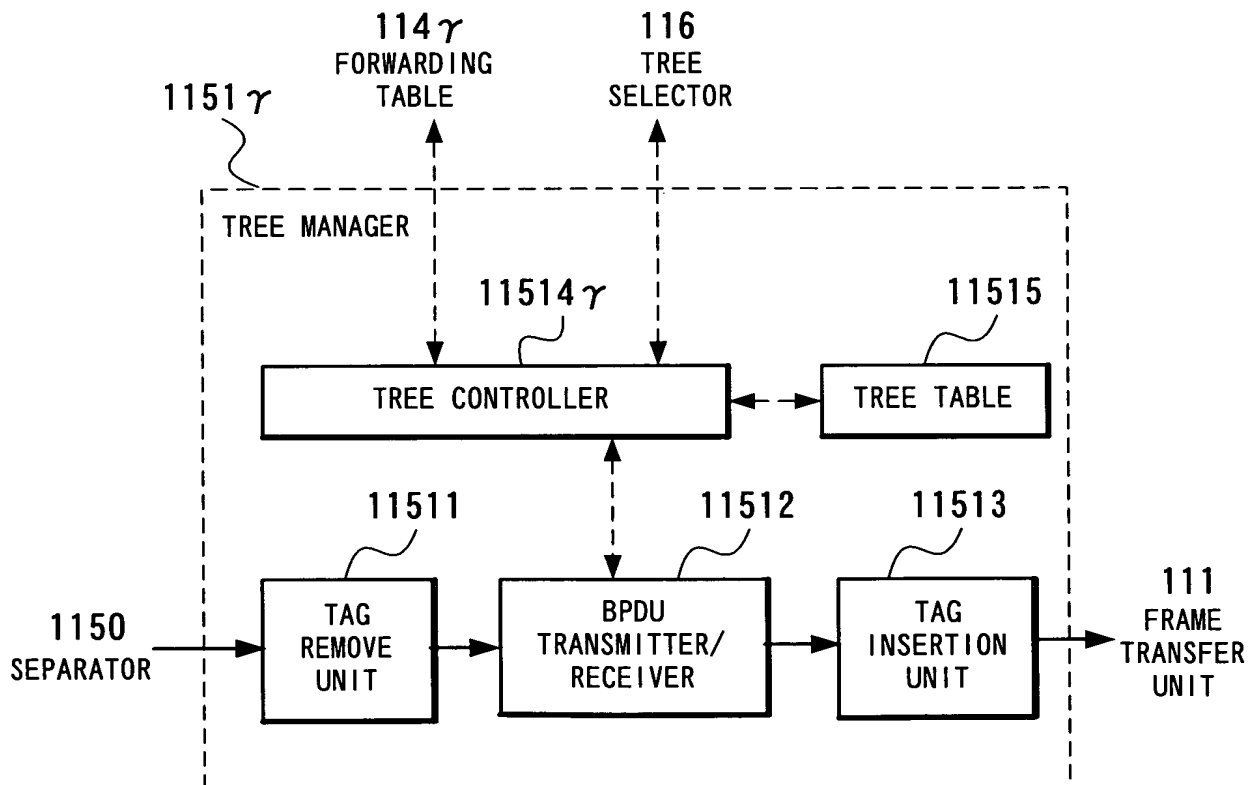
FIG. 43

FIG. 44

SETTINGS STATUS OF SPANNING TREE 61 (TAG GROUP 41)

NODE 6101	ROOT PORT 6102	TAG 1141	OUTPUT PORT 1142
11	N/A	41	END
12	LINK 21 SIDE	41	LINK 21 SIDE
13	LINK 22 SIDE	41	LINK 22 SIDE
14	LINK 23 SIDE	41	LINK 23 SIDE
15	LINK 26 SIDE	41	LINK 26 SIDE
16	LINK 27 SIDE	41	LINK 21 SIDE

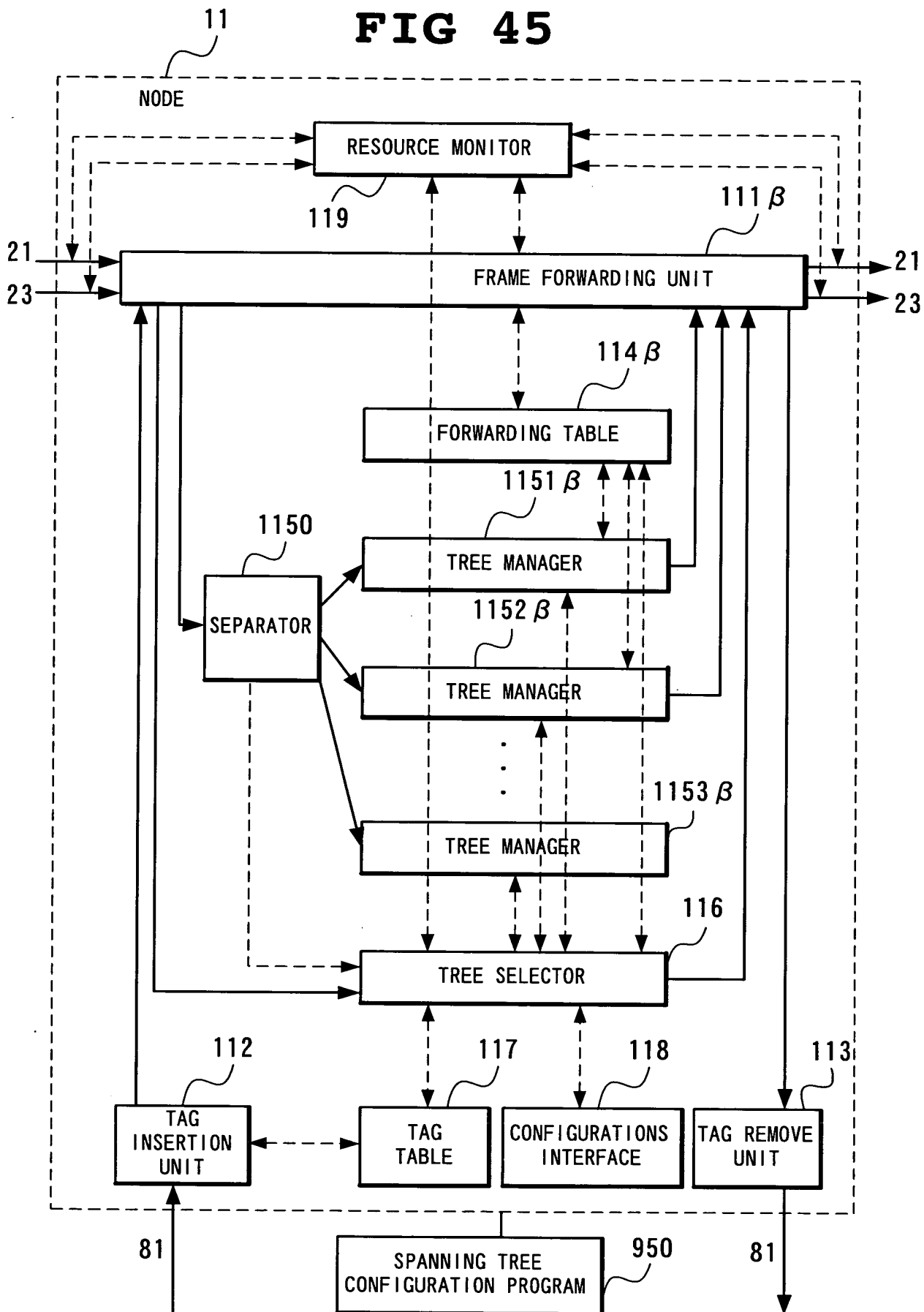
FIG 45

FIG. 46

114 β

(VIEW FROM NODE 11)

TAG 1141	OUTPUT PORT 1142	BROADCAST OUTPUT PORT 1144
41	TAG REMOVE UNIT SIDE (END)	LINK 21 SIDE, LINK 23 SIDE (END)
42	LINK 21 SIDE	LINK 23 SIDE (END)
43	LINK 21 SIDE	— (END)
44	LINK 23 SIDE	LINK 21 SIDE (END)
45	LINK 23 SIDE	— (END)
46	LINK 21 SIDE	— (END)

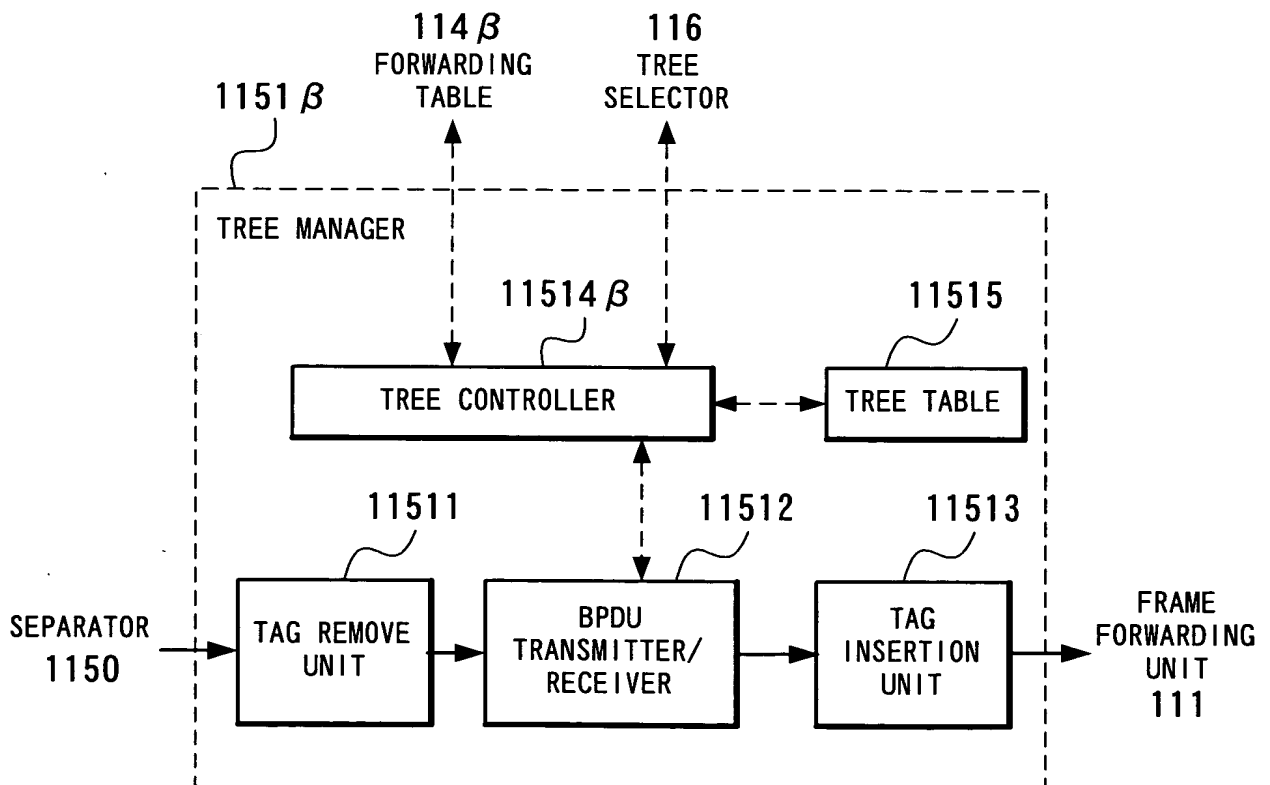
FIG. 47

FIG. 48

SETTINGS STATUS OF SPANNING TREE 61 (TAG GROUP 41)

NODE 6101	ROOT PORT 6102	DESIGNATED PORT 6104	TAG 1141	OUTPUT PORT 1142	BROADCAST OUTPUT PORT 1144
11	N/A	LINK 21 SIDE, LINK 23 SIDE	41	TAG REMOVE UNIT SIDE	LINK 21 SIDE, LINK 23 SIDE
12	LINK 21 SIDE	LINK 22 SIDE	41	LINK 21 SIDE	LINK 22 SIDE
13	LINK 22 SIDE	N/A	41	LINK 22 SIDE	—
14	LINK 23 SIDE	LINK 26 SIDE	41	LINK 23 SIDE	LINK 26 SIDE
15	LINK 26 SIDE	LINK 27 SIDE	41	LINK 26 SIDE	LINK 27 SIDE
16	LINK 27 SIDE	N/A	41	LINK 27 SIDE	—

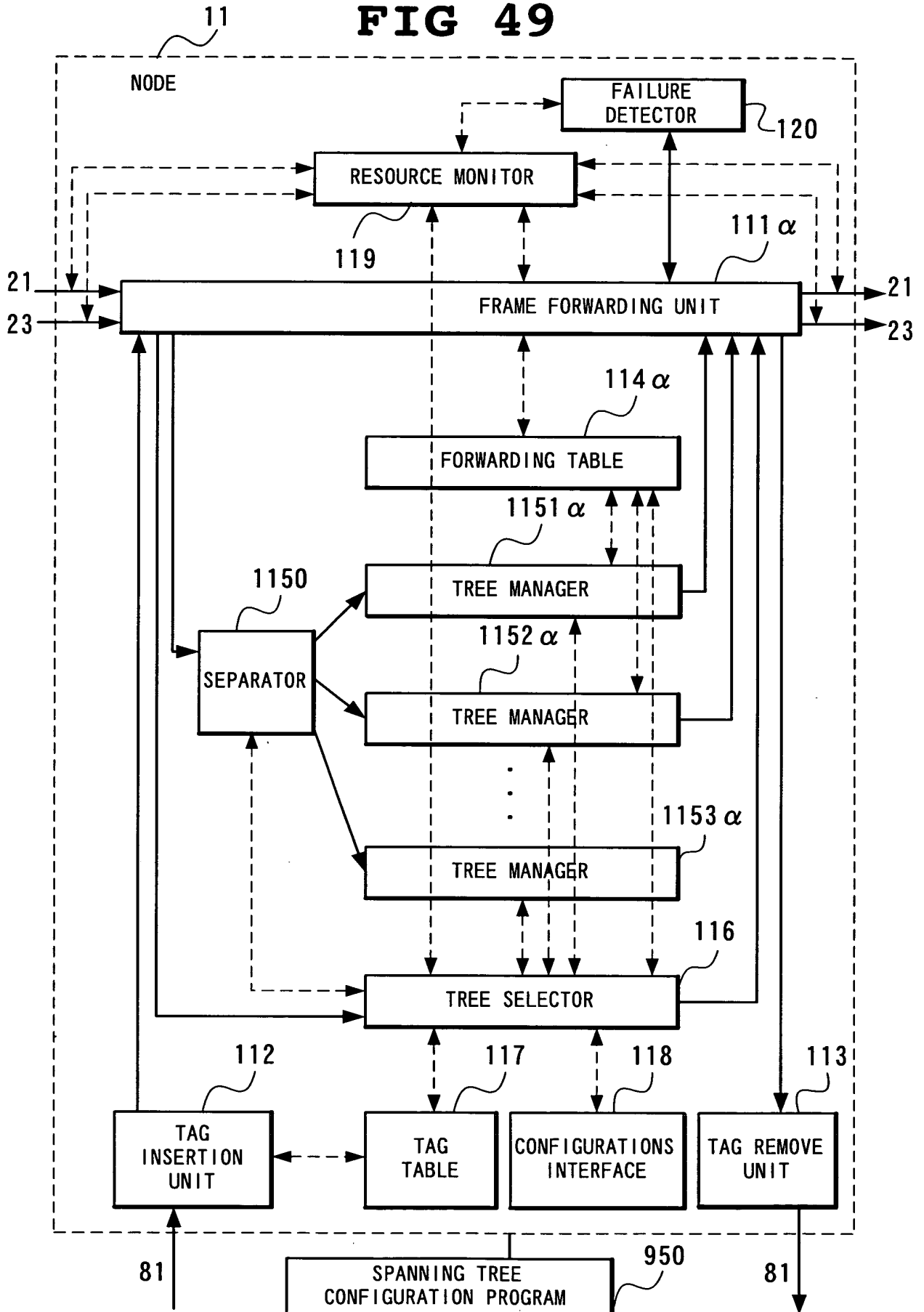
FIG 49

FIG. 50

114 α

(VIEW FROM NODE 12)

TAG1141	ROOT PORT 1142	AUXILIARY OUTPUT PORT 1143
41	LINK 21 SIDE	LINK 24 SIDE
42	END	END
43	LINK 22 SIDE	LINK 24 SIDE
44	LINK 21 SIDE	LINK 24 SIDE
45	LINK 24 SIDE	LINK 21 SIDE (OR 22)
46	LINK 22 SIDE	LINK 24 SIDE

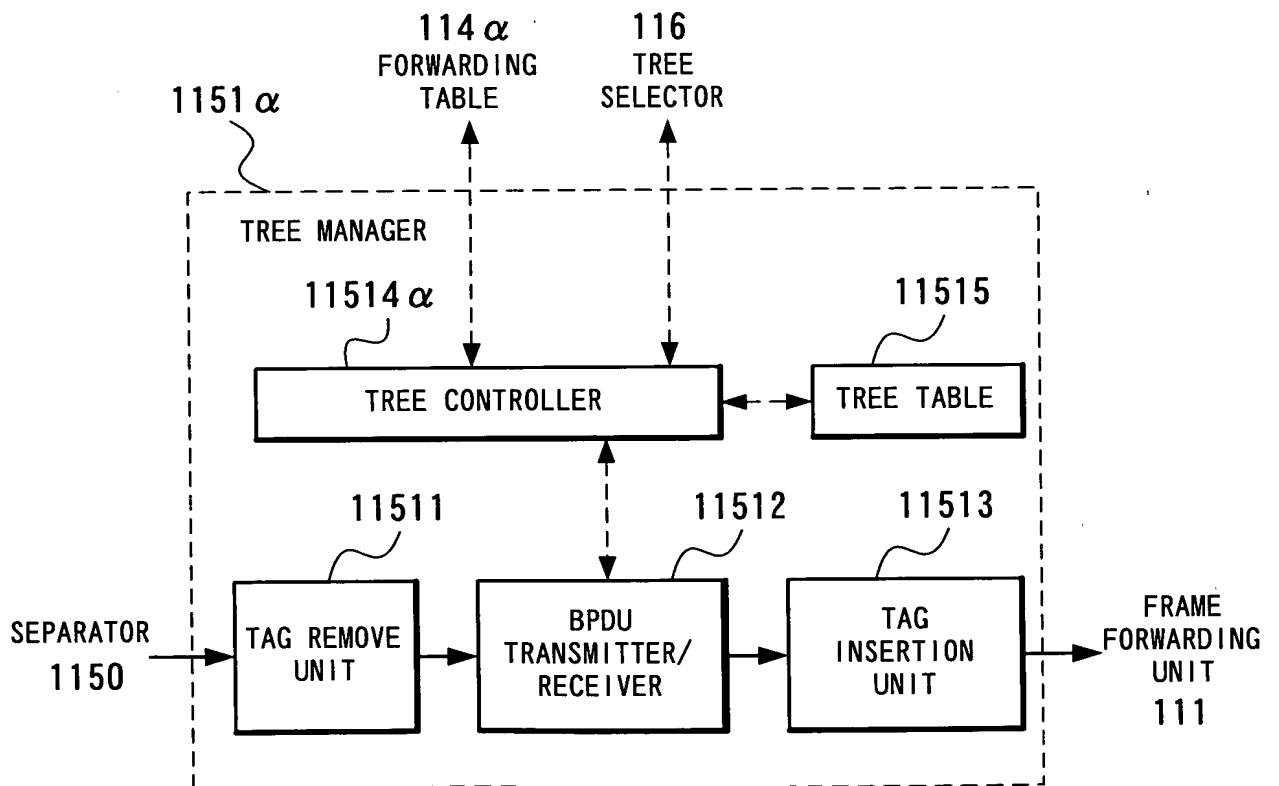
FIG. 51

FIG.52

SETTINGS STATUS OF SPANNING TREE 61 (TAG GROUP 41)

NODE 6101	ROOT PORT 6102	ALTERNATE PORT 6103	TAG 1141	OUTPUT PORT 1142	AUXILIARY OUTPUT PORT 1143
11	N/A	N/A	41	TAG REMOVE UNIT SIDE	—
12	LINK 21 SIDE	LINK 24 SIDE	41	LINK 21 SIDE	LINK 24 SIDE
13	LINK 22 SIDE	N/A	41	LINK 22 SIDE	—
14	LINK 23 SIDE	N/A	41	LINK 23 SIDE	—
15	LINK 26 SIDE	LINK 24 SIDE	41	LINK 26 SIDE	LINK 24 SIDE
16	LINK 27 SIDE	N/A	41	LINK 27 SIDE	—

FIG. 53

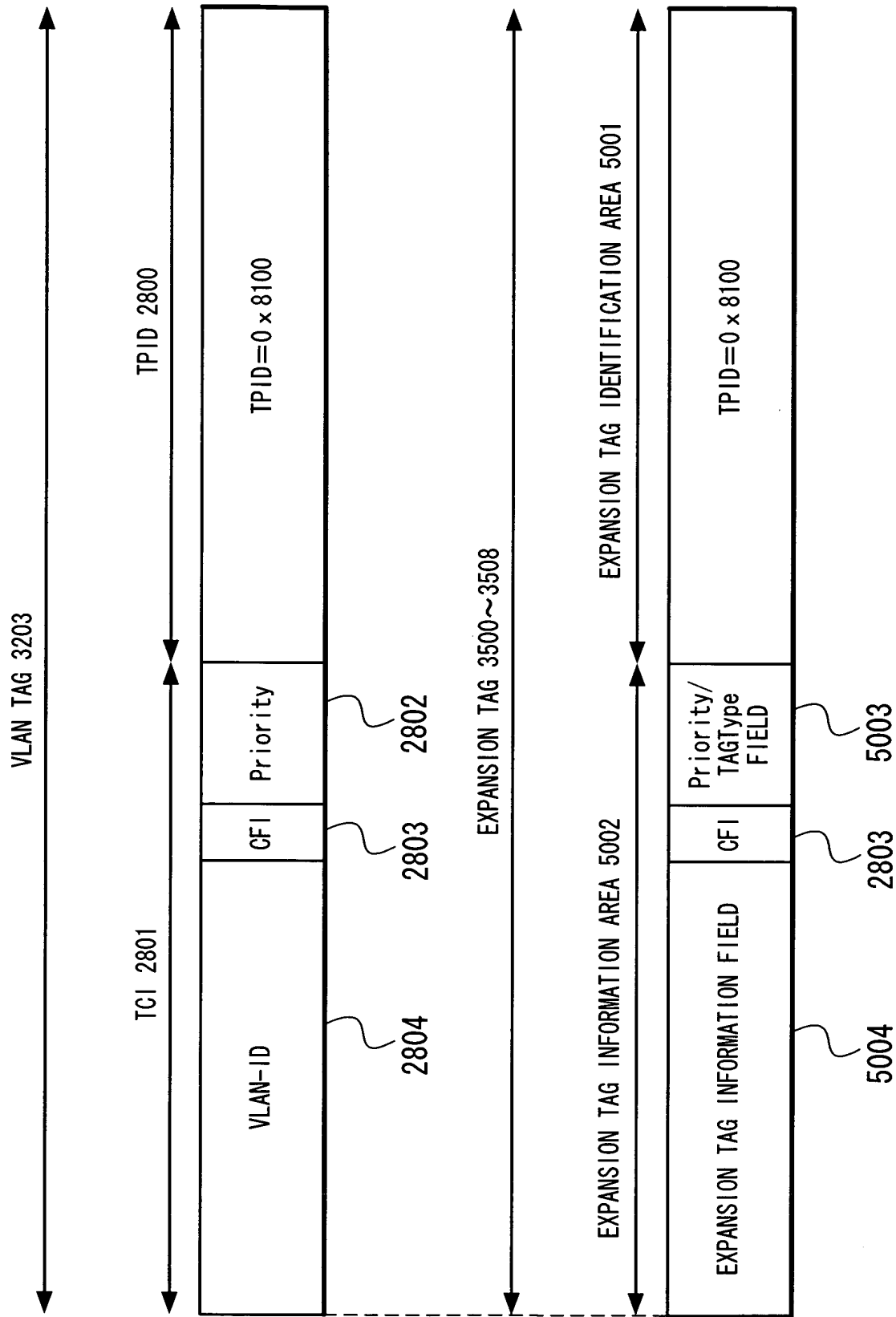


FIG. 54